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For the facts about Peugeot 2-litre Saloons, look at the figures.

PRINCESS 2200HL	£3999
PEUGEOT 504GL	£4252
GRANADA 2000L	£4347
OPEL REKORD BERLINA	£4389
SAAB 99GL (4 door)	£4575
CITROEN CX2000	£4637
VOLVO 244DL	£4769
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BMW 320	£5349
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PEUGEOT 504 TI	£4669
SAAB GLE (automatic)	£6225
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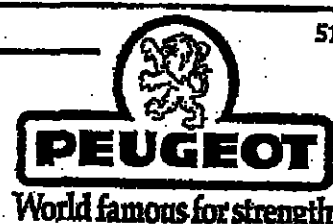
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All prices quoted are manufacturers' recommended retail prices, correct at time of going to press.

HOME NEWS

Liberals put forward plan for replacing Official Secrets Act

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Detailed proposals for the reform of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, to permit a freer flow of government information and to remove the threat of prosecution from journalists who disclose information that in no way endangers national security, have been put by the Liberals to Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, and Mr. Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General.

Mr. Emyrn Hooson, QC, Liberal spokesman on legal affairs, said yesterday that copies of the document were being sent to all Liberal candidates and parties with the object of opening a campaign to persuade the Government to speed preparation of measures on the lines proposed.

The Liberal Party is angry about the Government's dilatory approach to a reform that has been promised by successive governments since the report of the Franks committee on section two of the 1911 Act was published in 1973. The committee stated: "We found section 2 a mess. Its scope is enormously wide. . . . A catch-all provision is saved from absurdity in operation only by the sparing exercise of the Attorney General's discretion to prosecute."

As it impinged on freedom of information the law must be more tightly drawn, the committee said. In its October, 1974 manifesto, Labour promised to "replace the Official Secrets Act by a measure to put the burden on the public authorities to justify withholding information."

The aim was that "the process of government should be more open to the public."

The latest promise is that there will be a White Paper setting out legislative proposals during this session of Parliament.

According to the Liberals, there is not yet a draft; various papers have been sent to the different ministries and all kinds of objections have been raised by ministers and civil servants.

In government quarters, however, it was asserted yesterday that a draft had been prepared but that further consultation was necessary. The forecast now is that the White Paper will appear about the end of May.

There seems to be a real danger that the Government will reform along the lines of the Franks report and attempt to present this as a fulfilment of a commitment to reform the Official Secrets Act, the Liberal submission states.

"There should be (a) a positive attempt to ensure that legislation designed to deal with espionage will be used only for that purpose; and (b) a commitment to the disclosure of as much information as possible."

The emphasis seems to be upon replacing a blunderbuss with an Armatite rifle; but the emphasis should be upon the replacement of secrecy with open government."

Mr. Hooson said that there should be two Bills: one to deal with spies and espionage where the security of the realm was involved, to be called the Security of the Realm Bill; the other an official information Bill.

Under section one of the 1911 Act, meant to deal with spies and espionage, imprisonment up to 14 years is imposed. "People who are in no way alleged to be spies are under

threat of such penalties," the Liberal document states. "Section One must be replaced by completely unambiguous legislation."

Dealing with what is called "the Franks approach", the Liberals attack the sort of official information Bill envisaged by the committee because, they argue, the system of document classification would mean that ministers would over-classify.

"The most confidential classified documents would be backed by criminal sanctions imposed by their disclosure," the document says. "If someone was prosecuted for such disclosure the courts would have to accept the classification and could not challenge it."

Such proposals, it is implemented, would mean that a government had complete control over what it disclosed. "It leaves a vast scope for the misuse of classification and would probably be more illiberal in practice than the existing legislation."

The government do not appear to propose much of a departure from this. The Home Secretary has specified that he proposes to alter only areas concerning criminal sanctions, leaving Civil Service discipline untouched.

As habitual civil service secretiveness is hardly likely to be more of an obstacle to more disclosure of information on which decision-making is based, the Home Secretary can hardly be described as striding towards open government.

His argument that the Government would enact more liberal proposals than Franks suggests rests merely on an attempt to repeat section two and to leave the rest to section one, applying section one to areas for which it was not designed. It is argued that it is desirable that all question of ambiguity should be eradicated, as far as possible, from official secrets legislation and that much more official information should be disclosed. Hence the necessity for an official information act to replace section two but with different provisions concerning the classification and disclosure of information that those advocated by Franks.

Clearly, all government information could not be automatically disclosed and it was proper to have some areas where information could be classified. They were:

Defence and internal security; international relations; law and order, covering criminal investigation and the security of prisons; intelligence and security, although proposals to protect all information in that area, whether classified or not, seemed extreme; cabinet documents, insofar as they related to the above categories; also, confidences of the citizens could be subject to the internal sanctions of government departments.

The Liberals propose: Rather than an elaborate system of Franks classification, three main classes in this area would suffice: (a) information exempted from access, the unauthorized disclosure of which attracts criminal penalties; (b) information to which there is no right of access, but not attracting criminal sanctions for unauthorized disclosure; (c) all other information to which there is a right of access.

Mr. Hooson hopes to see the Lord Chancellor, the Home Secretary and the Attorney General soon to discuss his plan and try to obtain a draft of the Government's proposals.

Radical plan for injury recompense expected

By Our Legal Correspondent

The legal profession and motorist organizations are awaiting with trepidation publication later today of the report of the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injuries.

They expect it to contain a radical recommendation that personal injury should receive compensation for their injuries out of a central fund, irrespective of who was to blame for the accident.

If implemented, such a "no-fault" scheme might mean the loss of lucrative work for lawyers. The motorist organizations fear that the burden of paying for the scheme would fall on the motorist.

The royal commission, chaired by Lord Pearson, aged 78, a former Law Lord, has been at work for five years. Its establishment was announced in December, 1972, by Mr. Edward Heath, then Prime Minister, shortly after the report of the Robins Committee on Health and Safety at Work, and at the height of the concern over compensation to be paid to thalidomide victims.

The royal commission's wide terms of reference included looking into the system of compensation payable for death or personal injury suffered at work; in road accidents and in using other forms of transport; through using defective goods; and in premises occupied by others. Accidents in the home were the only important area of personal injury not within the commission's terms of reference.

Nine hundred and twelve years after the event, the British tourist industry has decided to make capital out of the Norman Conquest. The barons of England's last permanent invasion.

Charged with the responsibility of giving other parts of the country as well as London a share of the rich tourist trade, the board has devised nine Norman heritage trails. They



A visitor absorbing the atmosphere of the monks' warming or common room in Battle Abbey near Hastings.

1978 will be the 1066 year

From Alan Hamilton
Battle

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Charged with the responsibility of giving other parts of the country as well as London a share of the rich tourist trade, the board has devised nine Norman heritage trails. They

stretch from the Welsh marches to the Scottish border abbeys and from Norwich to Herefordshire.

The trails guide the tourists towards more than 120 vestiges of the Conquest, from Durham Cathedral to exquisite Romanesque country churches. By including the last example of English strip farming at Laxton, Nottinghamshire, the board hopes that the promotion will be not merely a tour of architectural relics but will convey the whole social history of the period of England's last permanent invasion.

Mr. Lester Borley, chief executive of the board said: "We are not pretending that every one is a Norman scholar; we

hope to make people aware of the whole span of our Norman heritage."

The board has been encouraged by the success of its American and Roman heritage trails, promoted in the past two years.

At the same time the Department of the Environment is developing its recently acquired site at Battle. Part of the adjacent abbey, occupied by a girls' school, may be made into an information centre.

The battleground itself, although owned by the department and occupied by a tenant farmer, may soon be opened; negotiations are in progress to open a heritage trail across his fields.

When Mr. Duke arrived at Gatwick airport, he had, at most, only a handful of supporters in Britain. It is unlikely that he has increased his support since then.

One of his supporters admitted that there was no chance that the Klan would ever set up in Britain. The main result of the visit had been to encourage right-wing groups, he said.

Mr. Duke told me that he would provide "exclusive stories" if a good article was written about him. He said he would leave the country immediately if the Home Secretary and MPs who have criticized him would accept a live debate on television with him.

Much has also been made of the apparent inability of the police to serve the Home Office order. Mr. Duke has maintained that that was because the British people agreed with him and protected him. In fact, only one constable was involved, and the police had no power of arrest or detention to assist them in serving the order.

Mr. Duke has undoubtedly attempted to get into touch with the National Front, but has been rebuffed by that organization. He said that had it not been for the publicity he would have met the Front leaders. Otherwise his activities in Britain appear to have been extremely limited.

Warning over charities' dependence on state

By Ian Bradley

Nearly two thirds of the income of charities in Britain comes from non-voluntary sources, according to figures published today in the first annual survey of charitable donations and receipts.

Mr. Redmond Mullin, assistant director of the Charities Aid Foundation, says in the introduction that voluntary organizations are in danger of becoming excessively dependent on statutory funding.

"It would be naive to suppose that charities which are effectively dependent on statutory funding will be left with the freedom of initiative any longer than it suits the convenience of the state," he says.

The survey shows that British charities had an income of £1.7 billion in 1977, the last year for which full figures are available; £330m came from individuals, £165m from legacies, £170m from trusts, £42m from companies and £1,010m from non-voluntary sources, including government grants, dividends, interest and rent, and fees and charges.

The survey suggests that charitable giving by individuals has increased in absolute terms over the past few years, but not enough to keep pace with inflation. Nine people out of 10 give something to charity each year,

but the bias for sustained, substantial giving is towards the upper socio-economic groups.

Mr. Mullin notes that relatively little is being done to increase charitable giving among shop-floor workers in Britain. He suggests that greater publicity should be given to tax-deductible gifts.

The survey also shows that corporate giving has been fairly static over recent years. It suggests that there could be greater use of forms of giving that carry a tax benefit.

The giving of 200 large companies and trusts and the income of 200 charities are analysed in the survey. It shows that in 1976 the largest corporate donor was the Wellcome Foundation, which gave £3,734,000 to charity, followed by the Disinfectants Company. The biggest charities were the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Oxfam, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Dr. Barnardo's, all of which had incomes exceeding £6m.

In addition to publishing an annual survey of charity statistics, the foundation is compiling a directory of charitable needs which will list the current and capital needs of more than 50,000 charities.

Charity Statistics, 1977-78 (Charities Aid Foundation, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent, E4).

Klan chief's denial about US police

By Robert Parker

Mr. David Duke, the so-called "Grand Wizard" of the Ku Klux Klan, who has been in Britain for two weeks, denied yesterday that he was wanted by the police in the United States.

Police in Jefferson County, Louisiana, where Mr. Duke lives, say he did not, as required, notify them of his visit to Britain. He was supposed to tell the police about travel plans because he is appealing against a six-month prison sentence, imposed in June last year, after being convicted of inciting violence against the police during a Klan convention in an hotel.

Mr. Duke said from his base at West Ruislip, London, yesterday that he had been convicted and sentenced and that he was appealing against the verdict.

He insisted that his lawyer in New Orleans had notified the court authorities of the visit to Britain and that no objection had been made. Mr. John Wilson-Reed, the lawyer, was not available for comment but an assistant told me from New Orleans: "I very much doubt if Mr. Reed will want to comment. If he does I will get him to ring you back." He did not ring back.

Mr. Duke maintained that the charges were political and involved freedom of speech. His lawyer was a member of the

American Civil Liberties Union.

Meanwhile, in Britain, Mr. Duke is appealing against the Home Office variation order served on him on Monday evening, which requires him to leave the country within 14 days, subject to appeal. The order was served after the Daily Express had told the police where Mr. Duke was.

Mr. Anthony Reed-Herbert, until recently a leading member of the National Front, is Mr. Duke's solicitor. A lawyer, "with right-wing leanings", has been instructed, and the Home Office has indicated that the appeal will be heard as soon as possible. It is unlikely to be heard before next week.

The appeal is being fought on the grounds that Mr. Duke has committed no offence in Britain, that nothing has changed since the time that he was allowed into the country, and that the Home Secretary's decision to make the order was arbitrary.

It is now clear that Mr. Duke's visit to Britain has been little more than a brilliant exercise in self-publicity. Since slipping into the country unnoticed Mr. Duke has hardly been off the front pages, and he has had more than a thorough airing on radio and television.

He appears to have run rings round the police, to have embarrassed both Scotland Yard and the Home Office, and has created the impression that

he is setting up a fully fledged organization in Britain.

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30 days of prayer for Ulster peace

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs
Correspondent

Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral will embark tomorrow on 30 days of prayer for peace in Northern Ireland. The cathedral will attempt to maintain a relay of continuous prayer throughout the time the building is open, and public prayers will be said similarly every hour in the abbey. The prayers will be interrupted only over the Easter weekend.

It will be launched with a special St. Patrick's Day service in Westminster Cathedral tomorrow, which will be led by Cardinal Hume and the Bishop of London, Dr. Ellison. The Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council, the Rev. Stanley Turtel, and the Dean of Westminster, Dr. Edward Carpenter, will take part.

Cardinal Hume, announcing the period of prayer, said: "The prolonged suffering of the Northern Ireland people continues relentlessly. The Christian churches here in Britain are deeply conscious of their responsibility to do all in their power in search for a just and lasting peace."

St. Patrick's Chapel in the cathedral and St. George's Chapel in the abbey have been reserved throughout the 30 days for the use of the public to join in the prayers, which will also be said in the cathedral and St. George's Chapel at the same time.

Ecumenical appeal: A William Temple lectureship in social ethics is to be founded at the Irish School of Ecumenics in Dublin, and an ecumenical appeal for £100,000 was launched at Church House, Westminster, yesterday, to finance it. The school, which

awards an MA degree from Hull University and its own diploma in ecumenism, plans to extend its study of church-state relations with the intention of making a contribution to easing the Northern Ireland troubles.

Dr. R. P. C. Hanson, former Bishop of Ireland, Bishop of Clogher and now Professor of Historical and Contemporary Theology at Manchester University, said ecumenical research and understanding had a vital role to play in Ireland because the origin of the present crisis was in the confusion of political and religious belief.

He criticized the Irish Roman Catholic hierarchy for having only a lukewarm interest in the school, saying that many Irish bishops had been little influenced by the Second Vatican Council.

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London-Los Angeles air fares battle is joined

By a Staff Reporter

The price-cutting war between the transatlantic airlines increases today as Laker Airways applies to the Civil Aviation Authority to introduce a Skytrain single fare of £113 between London and Los Angeles.

Even if it is allowed, however, the new fare will not be introduced until September, so the question still remains of which airline will provide the cheapest flight to Los Angeles this summer.

From a brief survey conducted by The Times yesterday, it would appear that the cheapest will be British Caledonian's eleventh-hour stand-by fare of £69, the details of which British Caledonian lays before the CAA today.

Tickets for the service, if it is approved, will be sold two hours before take-off, with seats allocated an hour before departure. The fare back from Los Angeles to London will be £80.

Close behind that cut-rate fare will be the new budget fares which British Airways, Pan American and Trans World Airlines hope to introduce. For a £59 single fare in the peak period, or £89 outside

peak months, passengers will have to book at least 21 days in advance, specifying which week they want to fly. The airline will then confirm the exact date and time, seven to 10 days before departure.

The fare back from Los Angeles to London will be £118 in the off-peak period and £131 during peak periods.

Laker Airways' present round trip comes out at slightly more than the proposed budget and stand-by flights of British Airways, Pan American and TWA.

Washington talks: Talks between the aviation authorities of the American and British governments towards a new system of transatlantic fares continued in Washington yesterday (our Air Correspondent writes).

As agreement appeared to have been reached on scheduled flight regulations, airlines will be able to offer a wide range of cheap fares between London and provincial gateways in the United States. Airlines in London began to sell those fares yesterday "subject to Government approval".

Keeper tells of shot that killed poacher

From Our Correspondent,
York

John Parfitt, said to be a poacher, died from gunshot wounds in the chest after grappling with a gamekeeper in a lonely copse at night, it was stated at an inquest at York yesterday.

Mr. Roland Senior, the gamekeeper, came face to face with Mr. Parfitt after chasing him through woods near the Duke of Norfolk's Catton Towers estate near Selby, North Yorkshire, and his gun went off accidentally during the struggle. It was stated.

At first the keeper thought Mr. Parfitt was pretending to be seriously injured as he slumped to the ground, but the light from Mr. Senior's torch showed the bloodstained clothing around a wound. Mr. Senior ran back to his cottage to call the ambulance and the police.

Mr. Miles Coverdale, the coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death on Mr. Parfitt, aged 28, of Grange Road, Thorne, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Mr. Senior, who is 37, has been the duke's gamekeeper for 16 years. The court was told that no criminal charges are to be preferred against him.

IBA predicts bright future for local radio

By Martin Huckerby

The future looks buoyant for Britain's independent local radio stations, according to the report of the Independent Broadcasting Authority for 1976-77, which was published yesterday.

When first established, some of the local radio companies suffered financial difficulties but after a good economic year for both independent radio and television the IBA said the vitality of independent local radio had been confirmed.

By the end of March last year more than two thirds of the stations were breaking even or operating profitably. The increasingly healthy financial position was due largely to success in advertising sales.

The IBA believed that independent local radio was ready for further expansion and it was continuing to press for the earliest possible extension of self-financed local radio to all Britain's big towns, cities and counties.

Noting that the advertising revenue of the television companies for the year was £249m, compared with £158m the previous year, the IBA said that indicated the potential for expansion of programme production.

In terms of individual television programmes and the number of international awards gained, the authority said the year had been one of its most successful.

Independent Broadcasting Authority Annual Report and Accounts 1976-77 (Stationery Office, £1.50).

Hope of end to papers dispute

Hope of an early end to the dispute that affected distribution of national newspapers in London yesterday was expressed by the Newspaper Publishers Association last night.

An association council meeting yesterday discussed the overtime ban by members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades in distribution warehouses, in a dispute over pay. The association said: "We hope a meeting will quickly be convened, to bring the dispute to an end within 24 or 48 hours."

Speaker tells listeners relish Commons noise

By Our Political
Correspondent

People should be warned in advance that when the House of Commons "goes on the air" after Easter Monday listeners must expect a lot of background noise and shouted interruptions.

Mr. George Thomas, the Speaker, said at a Press Gallery luncheon yesterday.

"We have one of the most robust and lively Parliaments in the world," he said. "The Commons has a living, vibrant personality of its own and only those who 'belong' whether they are upstairs in the Press Gallery or downstairs on the floor of the Chamber, are able to feel what the House really represents."

When experimental broadcasts were made two years ago, Mr. Thomas said, there was enormous public interest but many people complained of the noise. "Cries of anguish and of anger, of agreement and disagreement, have characterized the Chamber for centuries."

"The British people are a sophisticated people and I believe and hope that they will

realize that the thing

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forcefully truth

He was told the

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Prime Minister's

"Hallelujah!" he

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But he cautioned

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The Speaker's

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proceedings were

Newspapers could

check on the

assessment of what



"I'd planned to have enough. But these days I have to have some help."

When you've once known a reasonable standard and have saved for your retirement, what can you do when inflation makes a mockery of all your careful planning?

You can turn to the Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association.

To begin with, the DGAA will understand. Although they have 13 Residential and Nursing Homes, they know that people want to stay in their own homes for as long as they can cope, keeping their friends and the roots they have put down over the years.

So, the DGAA helps with allowances. They send clothes parcels. They remember Birthdays and Christmas. They help with a little extra when a crisis upsets a tiny budget.

Please help the DGAA with a donation. And please, do remember the DGAA when making out your Will.

DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK'S AID ASSOCIATION

Vicarage Gate House, Vicarage Gate, Kensington, London W8 4AQ

"Help them grow old with dignity"

Jeff Smith

HOME NEWS

Mr Ennals speaks out against unofficial NHS workers' action

By John Roper
Health Services
Correspondent

There have been too many examples of unofficial action that damages the National Health Service and puts patients' health at risk, Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, said in London last night.

"I am cheesed off with that minority of workers in the service who put their own grievances before the interests of patients," he said. "My position on industrial action has been made crystal clear and I hope that the hospital and health service workers are listening, because it applies to them as it applies to consultants, junior doctors, nurses, porters or anyone else."

The NHS was not just any old firm, it was about life and death. There were procedures for dealing with grievance and they should be used. Pulling out the telephone plug, or refusing to admit sick patients was downright irresponsible.

Mr Ennals, who was speaking at a meeting of the London Campaign for Mental Health, called for a more honest debate on the state of the service. He was fed up with people talking down the NHS. It was not collapsing.

But it was under strain as demand increased. Some commitment was felt from those who worked in and cared about the services. But there was ill informed criticism, and some

merely wanted to make political capital. Some straight talking was necessary.

Making some new and some old points in listing eight of the biggest difficulties, Mr Ennals said that for decades parts of the service, such as the care of the mentally ill, mentally handicapped and the old, had been neglected.

There was the legacy of a grossly unfair share-out of cash for health services throughout Britain. In some areas and in some hospitals there were failures of cooperation between sections of staff. "There, sometimes, heads must be knocked together," he said.

The numbers of elderly were increasing, making bigger demands on the services. Advances in medical science made possible new and often expensive treatments. Yet there was a serious difficulty of waiting lists and there was no quick or easy way to cut them.

There were large numbers of modern hospitals being opened, and with that the difficulties of closing other hospitals, change of use, and relocation of staff.

Last was the much criticized organization of the NHS. The loudest critics were those who had imposed reorganization and now attacked it with accepting responsibility for its failures.

There was no disguising the fact that the NHS had been seen alongside the efforts and the achievements of the service.

Crime rose as police recruiting declined

By Our Home Affairs
Correspondent

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, yesterday blamed the 15 per cent crime rise in 1977 on poor police recruiting and wastage.

He told federation members at Llandudno that in 1976, a record year for police recruiting, crime increased by only 1 per cent. In 1977, a year in which more than five thousand officers resigned and the service suffered a net loss of two thousand men, crime increased by 15 per cent.

Indicative crimes had doubled in the past ten years, he said. If the present rate of increase continued, they would double again in the next five.

Mr Jardine's speech follows a letter from Mr Merlyn Rees, Home Secretary, to Mr Edward Taylor, shadow Scottish Secretary of State, agreeing that a net loss of 1,274 in police strength last year in England and Wales was too high, but suggesting that the increase might have been arrested.

Mr Jardine said yesterday that the 1977 crime figures were the answer to Mr Rees, the Government and the local authorities. They were the price the citizen had to pay for the contemptuous way the police service had been treated.

"It must be pretty obvious to anyone that nothing less than a very substantial pay increase this year will be required."

Judge refers to 'baseless attacks' over granting of bail
Change of plea in deception caseFrom Arthur Osman
Derby

Sydney Duncan Noble, aged 50, changed his plea at his trial at Derby Crown Court yesterday to guilty to three charges of deception involving elderly people. He was said to have posed as a chemist, a doctor's assistant, and a social security official to obtain tablets and a total of £58 from them dishonestly. He is expected to be sentenced next week.

Judge Wood said that, events having suddenly accelerated, he wondered whether it was a case in which to contemplate the making of an order in relation to the powers of the court to pass an extended term.

He continued: "Not because I would have thought it is a case for a swingeing sentence but because of the supervisory conditions which that might bring in to play."

It was disclosed that since 1945, when he was 17, Mr Noble had been sentenced by various courts to borstal training, corrective training and preventive detention, totalling 38 years and nine months.

He was remanded in custody for a statutory period of at least five days for notice to be served about convictions, so that, according to the judge, "that might make it possible to pass an extended term". The judge said he would not make up his mind about the length of the term until that space of time had elapsed.

He suggested that a plea of mitigation by Mr Peter Joyce, for the defence of Mr Noble, should be made on that occasion.

The court had been told how Mr Noble visited three elderly people, aged between 71 and 80,



Sydney Duncan Noble: 38 years in sentences.

in Derby between noon and 5 pm on August 3 last year.

On the first occasion he posed as a pharmacist and took a bottle of tablets from a couple, saying they were not appropriate, and a dozen empty medicine bottles.

He then visited a widow, aged 80, and posing as a doctor's assistant, obtained £15 from her on the pretext that he could get a colleague to remove a bunion from her toe.

Within the hour he visited a third woman, a widow aged 71, and posed as a social security manager. He told her he held an insurance policy that had not been paid to her. Her husband had been dead for nine years and later, after getting a note stamped by the dead man's former employers at the local evening newspaper, he gave the woman a bank paying-in

slip, saying it was a cheque for £284. He said he required £43 as a "bank claim fee". But he left a fingerprint from his left hand on the paying-in slip.

Det Constable Paul Yates said that after his arrest Mr Noble was granted bail on October 13 last year. A condition was that he should live in a Salvation Army hostel and report to the police nightly. He lived in the hostel for one night and reported on only two occasions. He had wanted bail so that he might trace alibi witnesses in London.

Judge Woods asked if there had been "neutrality or armed opposition" to the granting of bail, and the officer replied: "Armed opposition." Mr Noble had been rearrested on February 6.

Judge Woods, asking about the conditions of bail, remarked: "I ask because of some quite extraordinary insensitive and baseless attacks upon the judge (Judge Brooke Willis) who granted him bail, of which I saw some mention recently in the local newspaper, apparently taken from some Police Federation journal."

Constable Yates said that in January, 1954, Mr Noble was convicted of his first offences of obtaining money by false pretences. He appeared at Preston on two charges and asked for 30 others to be considered and was jailed for three years.

In April, 1956, at Ipswich, there were two more charges and 24 others were considered when he received a five-year term. In 1960, at Preston, for two similar offences, with 60 cases considered, he received seven years' preventive detention.

Call to cut number of those in prison

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A call for the Government to act on figures showing that a third of the prison population could be treated outside was made yesterday by three organizations directly involved: the Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless (Char), Mind (the mental health organization), and the Howard League for Penal Reform.

The figures are contained in a long-delayed Home Office report of a study done in 1972 by its research unit. Some details have appeared earlier elsewhere.

The researchers sampled men in prison on one day in south-east England. Nearly a third of the 771 studied had never committed a serious offence against the person.

Their crimes showed no obvious competence or planning, and they gained little from their thefts. Ninety-four per cent had committed damage to property totalling less than £1,000 in their entire criminal careers.

Mr Martin Wright, director of the Howard League, said yesterday: "If the same holds true now as when the research was done, the adult male population (in prisons) could be reduced by about 8,000."

Treating such offenders in the community would be cheaper than building more prison places costing several thousand pounds in capital for each one, and keeping people in them at a cost of £56 a week for each prisoner.

He described as "startling" another finding that only 33 per cent were apparently normal. That compared with 21 per cent definitely mentally disordered, including many who were petty offenders or homeless, or both. Further, 46 per cent seemed to need medical or psychiatric treatment.

The so-called "normal" prisoner had a lower reconviction rate. Mr Wright asked: "Is it justified, or even rational, to imprison those who are too irrational to be deterred and whose offences are trivial?"

"The mentally disordered should be looked after by the psychiatric services, but these can, admittedly, be troublesome patients, and the mental health professions and unions do not seem to want to know."

Describing the figures as an indictment of society, he said there was some justification for the use of prison to protect the public but not to keep misfits out of sight for a while.

Society was locking away not only the mentally disordered but the homeless (30 per cent of the sample), uneducated (90 per cent had no "O" levels or equivalent), and unskilled (26 per cent). Seven tenths of the homeless men were reconvicted within two years.

Mr Tony Smythe, director of Mind, said the Government was failing to create a range of community care, and so far had no proper arrangements for people discharged from prison who needed medical attention.

Mr Nicholas Bassock, director of Char said, more and better accommodations were needed for people in need outside prison.

British calf exports up by more than half in 1977

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

British calf exports rose by more than half last year and are unlikely to fall in 1978, the Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday. Its latest survey shows that British farmers, who supply little more than half of the food eaten in this country, are increasing their sales of livestock and meat abroad whenever trade restrictions allow.

The survey shows that at the end of last year British beef and veal exports accounted for 11 per cent of output, compared with 8 per cent a year earlier. Exports of mutton and lamb rose from 13 per cent of output in 1976 to 20 per cent.

The survey was published after ministers had received a report from officials in the Ministry of Agriculture, about the acutely sensitive subject of cruelty in the export trade for live animals.

Reservations expressed by the officials about the effectiveness of welfare rules abroad and about liaison between welfare authorities in different EEC countries will not be enough to make ministers respond to appeals from British animal lovers and ban the live export trade.

The commission said yesterday that it did not think exports of sheep meat would rise again in 1978, partly because of growing restrictions expected against British meat for sale in France. Exports of beef and veal are expected to rise sharply after falling in 1977.

The growth in the live export trade, especially of calves, will intensify the bitter debate between farmers and their opponents. Many livestock farmers see the highly priced markets of France and West Germany as a legitimate outlet because returns at home have been held down through the use of the "green pound".

Many welfare groups condemn the live export trade and say that the inadequacy of rules against cruelty abroad could be met by slaughtering export stock in Britain. Butchers say that it is incongruous for Britain to sell animals abroad when it imports more than 500,000 tonnes of meat a year.

BRITISH MEAT AND LIVESTOCK EXPORTS		
	1976	1977
Calves	249,800	384,800
Beef and veal	287,400	517,500
(tonnes)		
Sheep	100,800	87,700
Sheep meat (tonnes)	32,400	356,100
Pigs	44,600	44,600
Pork (tonnes)	30,700	28,800
Pork (tonnes)	11,100	16,800

Source: Meat and Livestock Commission

Compulsory sex education campaign attacked

By Annabel Ferriman

The campaign by the Family Planning Association to get sex education into the school curriculum should be stopped immediately, Mrs Mary Whitehouse, honorary secretary of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, said in London yesterday.

If sex education was made compulsory parents could not know what was being taught to their children and it would not be possible to withdraw them from such classes, "since the object could permeate many aspects of education at the time of the teacher", she said. Mrs Whitehouse, who was speaking on "Whose influences could guide teaching?" at the church of St Lawrence Jewry, the City, said the role now played by the Family Planning Association in schools with the approval of the Government could be publicly criticized.

"The function of this organization has changed. It is now most entirely involved with

the training of sex educators: teachers, youth leaders, social workers.

"Its publication, *Learning to live with sex*, is totally amoral in its approach and sows the seeds of confusion about the nature of right and wrong, posing only the choice between using contraceptives and having a baby. The choice of saying 'no' is hardly paid lip service."

Mrs Whitehouse said the booklet, stated to be for the 13 to 16-year-old, was freely distributed to youth clubs and schools. Because successive governments had paid large sums of public money towards the organizational costs of the FPA "we can assume that we are helping to finance the prostitution of our young."

Sex education was "a most effective vehicle for the creation of a value-free, and therefore totally vulnerable, generation by those who are interested in the political motivation of the young or in the fortunes to be made from the sale of contraceptives."

Consumer told to be more critical of unions

By Our Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, MP, consumer spokeswoman on consumer affairs, called yesterday consumers to be represented at the level of the General Council of the TUC so that a factual assessment could be made of the adverse effects on consumers of some union practices.

Mrs Oppenheim, speaking in Gloucester constituency, said consumers should be persuaded to replace suspicion by a greater degree of trust far as the business community is concerned.

She suggested that consumers could look instead at higher wages caused by restrictive practices, over-generous pay settlements and overmanning. She argued that standards of quality were lower because of industrial relations, and that consumers in Britain suffered more than in other countries from deprivation of services because of public likes.

Summerland fire damages for girl and widow

From Our Correspondent
Douglas, Isle of Man

Two survivors of the Summerland fire disaster in the Isle of Man four and a half years ago were awarded damages in the Manx High Court yesterday after hearings in January.

Ruth McQuillan, aged nine, of 20 Durn, Northern Ireland, who was 5½ when she was trapped in the fire, was awarded £5,000 and Mrs Mary Eleanor Carson, aged 61, of St Neots, Cambridge-shire, whose husband, aged 62, died in the fire, was awarded £5,130.

The awards were against the Summerland operator, Trust Houses Forte Leisure, which admitted liability.

Deputy Lord Eason said Ruth McQuillan, "this very brave girl", suffered serious burns to her legs and hands, necessitating three skin graft operations, and that she would always be some disfigurement. Mrs Carson had suffered serious injury through inhaling smoke and fumes. She had been unable to work since the fire.

"Taking a Sherpa to the Himalayas was a picnic compared to the pounding it gets in this quarry."

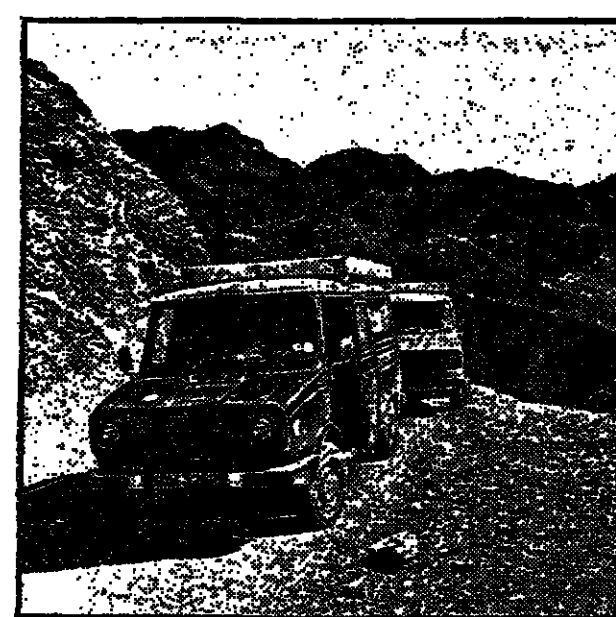
When we told David Farnell, transport manager of Samuel Wilkinson & Sons Limited, one of the leading brick manufacturers in the country, that two Sherpas had just driven to the Himalayas and back, he merely looked faintly amused.

"Wait till you see this," he said. He drove us out to one of Wilkinson's brick quarries in West Yorkshire. There, we saw a Sherpa pick-up loaded with bricks, labouring up a quarry track at moments up to its hub-caps in mud.

In the past he had used just about every other make of pick-up on the market. "But compared to them," he says, "the Sherpa has given us no trouble at all. We're absolutely delighted. Apart from a bit of bother with the throttle cable, it has never complained; just goes where we want it to go."

He often wants it to go to punishing lengths. Quite apart from the quarry itself, it is used to carry spares (huge castings and tyres) to earth-moving equipment stranded far from base.

In the two years since they bought it from the Service Garage, Brighouse, the 1798cc Sherpa diesel has averaged about 25,000 heavy-duty miles per year, and, true to its reputation for being fuel-sparing, has returned a very healthy 25.2 mpg.



British climbers Sherpa to the Himalayas.

Last year, the Carlisle Mountaineering Club drove a pair of two-year old, standard Sherpa vans to the Kishwar Himalayas and back; 13,000 miles on some of the worst roads (and non-roads) to be found in Europe and the Middle East.

There were gradients as steep as 1 to 4. There were desert temperatures that exploded a thermometer.

There were freezing nights, drenching rains and tracks that would have given a 4-wheel drive vehicle second thoughts.

Understandably, the Sherpas complained from time to time, but never seriously. Fully laden with climbers, food and mountaineering gear, they slogged on regardless and recorded an astounding 19.02 mpg for the whole trip.

It still carries Britain's best warranty.

After all that, it's not surprising that no other van carries a warranty to rival the Sherpa's.

Like all vehicles from Leyland Cars, it comes with Supercover.

And that includes a year's free no-mileage limit with parts and labour; a year's 24-hour roadside assistance from the A.A.; a year's A.A. Relay Recovery Service (approved conversions and U.K. mainland only); a 69 point pre-sale checkout, and the opportunity of renewing it all for a second year.

Some warranty! The Sherpa body options include vans, minibuses, crewbuses, chassis-cabs, and pick-ups. Engine options include a 1622cc and 1798cc petrol and 1798cc diesel.

Overdrive is an optional extra on the 1798cc petrol and diesel.

For further information please visit your nearest dealer, or write to:

Light Commercial Vehicle Sales, Leyland Cars, Grosvenor House, Prospect Hill, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 4DQ.

Sherpa



152500

PARLIAMENT, March 15, 1978

Special employment measures expected to be helping over 400,000 people by March 1979

House of Commons

After intensive discussions, the Government had reached an agreement with the EEC Commission on limited modifications to the temporary employment measures for the textiles, clothing and footwear industries, and TES would not be modified until they could introduce the arrangements.

He explained that alternative arrangements would afford equivalent support to employment in the textiles, clothing and footwear industries, and TES would not be modified until they could introduce the arrangements.

He went on: "We have decided to extend the scheme of the small firms employment subsidy, making it available from July 1 to manufacturing firms with less than 200 employees in the inner city partnership areas outside the London docklands and inner Birmingham."

On this new basis, the scheme is expected to cover some 70,000 new jobs in the period up to the end of March 1979. We have decided to extend the temporary employment subsidy (TES), the small firms employment subsidy and the job release scheme in broad-based form for a further year from April 1 next.

On this basis, the scheme should provide an extra 21,000 jobs for the registered unemployed in the period to the end of March 1979. We have decided to extend the temporary employment subsidy beyond six months to be required to submit a plan before the end of the first six months of the scheme, showing how they aim to make the supported jobs viable when it ends.

We shall be introducing a short-term working scheme for the textiles, clothing and footwear industries which will extend to all firms which are in the TES support they can in future receive and to those which have exhausted TES support.

These alternative arrangements will afford equivalent support to employment in those industries which are in the TES support they can in future receive and to those which have exhausted TES support.

The short-term arrangements can be introduced before the end of May provided that the Employment Subsidies Bill is enacted in good time.

So far, a date in May to be announced, new applicants for TES in the textiles, clothing and footwear sectors will be limited to not more than 70 per cent of the total labour force in any establishment for the first six months of subsidy and to not more than 50 per cent for the second six months.

In the case of applications received between April 1 and the May date, the limitation to 70 per cent will be applied after the first three months of subsidy and to 50 per cent after six months from first receiving the subsidy.

Similar limitations will be applied to the supplementary scheme in these sectors and from October 1 to applications for the supplementary scheme in any sector. There will be no commitment to provide the supplement to anyone entering the main scheme from April 1.

At the same time, we shall introduce new arrangements to support short-term working in the textiles, clothing and footwear industries. Where there would be redundancies in the period to the end of March 1979, workers who are put on short-term work will receive 75 per cent of their normal wages for the first six months and employers will be fully compensated from the Exchequer for the costs involved.

These arrangements will ensure that the number of people in unemployment in the industries concerned through the loss of TES support.

In addition, we have decided that firms in the textiles, clothing and footwear industries which have exhausted TES in the past or will do so in the period to the end of March 1979, should be eligible for a further six months' support for short-term working where redundancies would otherwise occur. We estimate that a further 40,000 workers will benefit for a period of six months under this further proposal.

The Commission have asked that expenditure commitments on applications received in 1978-79 from the textiles, clothing and footwear sectors for the TES main scheme should not exceed £55m and that expenditure commitments on such applications from other sectors should not exceed £80m.

The TES will continue unchanged in Northern Ireland where an applicant from the textiles, clothing or footwear industries is directly in competition with the establishment in the risk Republic.

In any such case, the limits on the proportion of the labour force to be supported and the requirements of a plan to make the supported jobs viable will apply, unless the competitor is in receipt of an equivalent employment subsidy.

These measures are additional to the new youth opportunities programme and the special temporary employment programme which come into operation on April 1 and the special training measures for 1978-79 for which we have now decided to provide £41m to support some 40,000 trainees.

The current special employment measures are now providing, in total for some 350,000 jobs, in the period to the end of March 1979. These measures are likely to add about £300m to United Kingdom expenditure over the next two years, but the net cost will be much less than this because of savings of unemployment benefit and national insurance contributions.

Only higher and sustained economic activity here and in the world economy will solve general unemployment and this is the Government's policy. But we cannot leave people unemployed so long as there are sensible ways to offer them employment or training opportunities, often at little additional cost to maintaining them in unemployment. This is the justification of the steps I have announced.

Mr. Booth—We will inform the Commission quarterly of the number of applications we receive. They will look particularly at some of the larger applications, but they will not have the right to determine those applications.

Mr. Booth—These measures are not contrary to Gatt. I do not regard these as protection measures in the normal sense. They are protection measures in the sense that they protect jobs.

Mr. John Evans (Newton, Lab)—As we have seen, the Government's policy is to support the textiles, clothing and footwear industries. This is the Government's policy. But we cannot leave people unemployed so long as there are sensible ways to offer them employment or training opportunities, often at little additional cost to maintaining them in unemployment. This is the justification of the steps I have announced.

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Move to make £500 the deposit for standing for Parliament

By 158 votes to 60 Mr Creville James (Leicester, West, Lab) was giving leave to the Representation of the People (Deposits and Nominations) Bill to change the parliamentary elections rules in respect of the deposit of candidates, in particular (he said) by raising the deposit of £150 payable by candidates and fixed in 1918 to that of £500.

It also provided for those cases where candidates had true and considerable public support but little money the alternative of their finding a percentage, which he suggested should be 5 per cent, of people on the electoral roll who were prepared to sign their nomination paper.

He said that at present anyone who was prepared to put up the sum of £150 did not merely acquire the right to stand for Parliament but the subsidiary rights provided at the expense of the public.

As a start, anyone who wished to stand and could find £150 would acquire the right to one free mailing to every elector in his constituency at an average cost of the public of about £4,500. If enough people put up for election, the cost of the publicity in enough constituencies at a cost of £150 each, they would acquire not only free

radio time but the least expensive television time in the history of the House.

The troubles this could lead to had become plain. In the recent by-election at Birmingham, Ladywood, there were 10 candidates of whom eight lost their deposit. His colleague Mr John Sever, who won the by-election, had said there was a massive vote for the unsuccessful candidates, but the cost of the deposit was too high.

Any person was free to stand and ought not to be prevented from doing so by the cost of the deposit. But there must be a reasonable limit if elections were not to be turned into a three-ring circus.

Mr Robert Rhodes James (Glasgow, Lab) said that the deposit of £150 was not a barrier to entry into the House. It was a barrier to entry into the House of Lords.

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The chances of an independent candidate being elected were small.

This Bill proposed to make the candidates of independent candidates more expensive and more difficult than they were and more difficult than they were and more difficult than they were.

He could not believe such a step heavily increased the cost of candidature which Mr James proposed.

He accepted that the matter had not progressed much over the last 40 to 50 years, but a change of this magnitude taken on a 10-minute private member's Bill seemed to him to be a very serious matter.

The Government would not be in any event but the seriousness of it had become obvious when the National Front had announced that it would stand for election in 1983.

This proposal or any proposal designed to considerably increase the deposit to make the position of independent candidates more difficult and expensive was not going to hurt the National Front. Primarily it would hurt individuals and small groups.

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Second reading for Bill to set up Scottish assembly

House of Lords

The preservation of the union with Scotland must be their first priority, Lord Campbell of Croy (C), said in resuming debate on the second reading of the Scotland Bill.

Speaking for the Opposition, he said they wanted to preserve the union and their fear was that the Bill, as it was, would produce a situation that could gravely endanger the union.

We will do our best (he said) to get basic improvements. If that proves to be impossible, we shall have to consider the possibility of a new Scottish National Party's policy was for the independence of Scotland. An unworkable scheme of devolution could lead to the break-up of Britain.

Viscountess Thorne (L) said she had always believed in devolution, but that did not make her a separatist. He welcomed and would do all he could to help the Bill, but it was not without its faults, some of which might be serious if the House did not correct them.

Lord Shillington (Lab) said the demand for Scottish home rule was a simple and straightforward one. The fact that Scotland had Scottish and British political parties.

The Assembly could release the energy and wisdom of the Scottish people to the service of their country and the United Kingdom once again on an outward-looking path.

Lord Shillington (Lab) said the demand for Scottish home rule was a simple and straightforward one. The fact that Scotland had Scottish and British political parties.

The Duke of Edinburgh (C), in a maiden speech, said he was a Scottish nationalist in his heart but a British nationalist in his head. The idea of a break-up of the United Kingdom was absolutely in his mind.

Constitutional changes or innovations should only take place as a result of a comprehensive market plan and not by piecemeal tinkering.

The time had come for a high-powered council, comprising some of the wisest and most respected people in the land and presided over by someone of the calibre of the Duke of Edinburgh, to advise on constitutional changes.

He would abstain in the vote on the Bill, but he felt they should leave it to the referendum to decide.

Lord Wilberforce said it would be the united desire of the legal members of the House to make the Bill as comprehensive as possible, remembering that it was not just concerned with the scrutiny of subordinate legislation but with the framework of the constitutional development of the country.

Lord Fraser of Kilmorack (C) in a maiden speech, said he was in favour of the union, but he was not satisfied with the status quo. If enough people living in Scotland wanted some devolution, they had a right to obtain it.

Lord Thomson of Monifieth (Lab) said the problems that the country was not a separatist. He welcomed and would do all he could to help the Bill, but it was not without its faults, some of which might be serious if the House did not correct them.

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Need to seek long term solutions

Mr James Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment

Mr. Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment (Leicester, C), questioning Mr. Booth on his statement that the Government had brought out with clarity the seriousness of unemployment and were it not for the measures he had announced today and on other occasions, total unemployment would be approaching two million.

As it is (he went on) this announcement shows that the Government are supporting up to 400,000 people. How much are the gross and net costs of the schemes either in operation or planned to come into operation for the 400,000 people?

How similar is TES Mark II to the German system now in operation? What plans do the Government have to deal with the structural problem which exists in the textile, footwear and clothing industry? How much are the gross and net costs of the schemes either in operation or planned to come into operation for the 400,000 people?

We support the extension of the job release scheme. Could he confirm that this is for people who are at work and not coming off the unemployment register?

It is the small firms of this country which are the main source for future employment prospects over the next few years. Why therefore did he not consider making the scheme available and extending it to all areas instead of restricting it to the areas he has announced?

The help that small firms need more than anything else is a change in the Employment Protection Act. The help he is giving is rather like putting your foot on the accelerator while at the same time keeping the other on the brake.

If help is to be given to small firms, the Prime Minister must suggest last night it is to changes in that Act and a reduction in Government interference and form filling which we have to look for in the next few years.

Mr. Booth—I welcome his support for the job release scheme and I confirm that it will apply only to those cases where the person taking the release is replaced by somebody registered as unemployed. I would have welcomed a little support for some of the other measures but that was not forthcoming.

In relation to small firms, our reasons for making the extensions in the development areas and the inner city partnership areas only is because unemployment is higher there and we still think there is a role for a measure which does recognise regional differences in unemployment.

On the Employment Protection Act, I have never seen the solution to this country's unemployment problems in creating second class workers in small firms.

cases it could cost as much as 40 per cent of the cost of a certain scheme. The average figure will be about 25 per cent.

There are essential differences between the schemes we are running now of short-term support coupled with TES and that in West Germany. This unemployment runs on a wider scale of support.

I believe that the TES proposals and scheme particularly in clothing, textile and footwear companies effect a very real strategy support given by the Department of Industry measures and that it can enable firms to expand their working capacity and production in a way not possible with TES.

Mr. Michael Noble (Rosedale, Lab)—Will he ignore the meek-mouthed attitude of Mr. Prior and accept our congratulations for his industry heartiness in the EEC?

Those of us concerned with clothing, textile and footwear are particularly pleased to know that firms which have exhausted TES can have a second bite at the cherry to maintain employment in difficult circumstances.

What help can firms expect if they have to produce a reorganisation plan for an application for TES?

Mr. Booth—I will look into the question of how effectively my department and the Manpower Services Commission might be able to assist firms in developing their restructuring plans which they will have to submit for carrying TES beyond six months.

Mr. Peter Walker (Worcester, C)—In the West Midlands unemployment has gone up faster under this Government than in any other region. The partnership areas in the West Midlands represent a minute proportion of unemployment in that area.

Even after these measures, will he confirm that when the school leavers leave this year we are still likely to have nearly 1,500,000 unemployed?

Mr. Booth—The youth opportunities programme for school leavers, which is one of the largest measures to be taken in the democratic world, will give them the chance to acquire the skills and experience which they have never previously had.

Mr. Booth—We will inform the Commission quarterly of the number of applications we receive. They will look particularly at some of the larger applications, but they will not have the right to determine those applications.

Mr. Booth—These measures are not contrary to Gatt. I do not regard these as protection measures in the normal sense. They are protection measures in the sense that they protect jobs.

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Advice about short term HP for housing

People who did not take legal advice before completing a contract

People who did not take legal advice before completing a contract to buy or rent a house should be on their guard against dealing with firms who sell houses on what amount to short-term hire purchase contracts.

Mr. Richard Buchanan (Glasgow, Lab) said that he had been asked by Mr. King Murray (Edinburgh, Lab) to look into the matter of short-term hire purchase contracts.

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Clarifying the law on trustee savings banks

No changes in Government policy

No changes in Government policy were announced in the House of Commons today when the Trustee Savings Banks Bill, which would clarify the law on trustee savings banks, was introduced.

Mr. Robert Rhodes James (Glasgow, Lab) said that the Bill was a technical Bill which clarified and amended the law on investment and borrowing powers of trustee savings banks.

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Italy's men menaced by British weekend

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 15

The Italian male, trying to cope with a recession, feminism, and other challenges to his pre-dominance, is now being expected to conform to the pattern of the ramed, suburban husband and turn his hand at the weekend by mending, painting, hanging wallpaper, making a keneel for the dog or building his own book-shelves.

The initiative is of British inspiration. Milan's first shop devoted to "Do it yourself" has just opened and is intended to be the first of a chain in Lombardy.

Mr Henry Purnan, managing director of Curial, General Coats, is determined to offer what was clearly lacking in Italy's social transformation—the means by which the individual can provide for himself many of the normal services which were traditionally left to others. Plumbers, electricians, painters, etc., are willing to turn his hand to any task, have now, in CCC thinking, "become mythical figures."

Their disappearance or their difficulty in finding them, especially in a large city such as Milan, is now combined with the national economic crisis to encourage the "do it yourself" approach.

The analysis looks accurate enough, particularly in northern Italy. Mr Purnan will probably have to prepare the ground over a longer and greater area than the country south of Rome, where social habits have changed less drastically. Even there, however, time is probably on his side.

Given that Lombardy is now doubtless for him, the success of "do it yourself" on a national scale will depend on

on programmes

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, March 15

The first Cabinet meeting of the new Government today unanimously approved the programme which Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Prime Minister, will present to Parliament tomorrow. A debate will then open on the question of confidence.

The first day in which the minority Christian Democratic Government was formed has pleased practically no one. For the first time for three decades, however, the Communists have been accepted as part of the government. The majority have been criticised as sharp as anyone in their criticisms of the Christian Democrats' failure to consider the need for new faces in the administration and new methods for choosing ministers.

It is, however, for granted that the Communists will vote for the Government.

FAO, said that marine resources throughout the world have once been abundant and are unlimited. Now, however, the maximum permissible yearly harvest of fish has been estimated at between 100 million and 150 million tonnes.

At present, he went on, the fish catch exceeded 65 million tons a year, and the world's basic shortage of fish can be expected within 10 years if the population continues to increase at the same rate.²⁷

Just under one-tenth of the annual worldwide catch came from fish farms, three-quarters of them from China and South-east Asia.

The countries represented at the Athens meeting are: Algeria, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Libya, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia and Yugoslavia.

Others who are not represented are Australia, Canada, Egypt, Syria and Turkey are exempted.

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OVERSEAS

South African inquest clears police in death of Indian dentist

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 15

A Durban magistrate ruled today that no one was to blame for the death of Dr. Hosen Haffeejee, a young Indian dentist who died in police custody last August. Mr. L. Blunden, who presided over the inquest into Mr. Haffeejee's death, said no other conclusion was reasonably possible than that the deceased "did commit suicide by hanging himself".

Dr. Haffeejee was found hanging by his trousers from his cell door at Brighton Beach police station in Durban on August 3 last year. He had been detained by the security police the day before and interrogated in connection with alleged subversive activities.

He was the twentieth person to die while in police custody since March, 1976. His death preceded by just over a month that of Mr. Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader. An inquest also found that no one was to blame for the Biko death.

The Haffeejee and Biko inquests continued many parallels. Both men were alleged to have been involved in scuffles with the police during which they received injuries. In both cases counsel for the family accused the police of being over-zealous in their methods of interrogation. This was denied by the police who argued that the detainee was of more value to them alive than dead.

Much of the inquest on Dr. Haffeejee was devoted to trying to explain the many injuries. There were 40 to 50 abrasions, bruises, most of them superficial, including extensive bruising to the head, back, hip, knees, chest, feet, breast and stomach wall.

During the inquest Professor Theodore Gordon, the Chief State Pathologist, who was one of the assessors, told the Biko inquest that he had concluded that force had been applied to Dr. Haffeejee's body between four to 12 hours before his death. The injuries could have been caused by a booted foot, a fist or a fall against a hard object, he said, but there was no doubt that the dentist's death was consistent with hanging.

Dr. Wilfred Turner, counsel for Dr. Haffeejee's family, suggested that the injuries were caused by Captain P. L. du Toit and Lieutenant J. R. Taylor of the security police during "over-zealous interrogation". He asked the court to find that the two policemen had used third-degree methods and had deliberately caused the injuries.

This was vigorously denied by the two policemen, who said the injuries could only have been caused during a struggle at the time of Dr. Haffeejee's arrest. Mr. Willem Booysse, counsel for the police, said that Dr. Cooper's submissions were based on pure speculation.

In his ruling today the magistrate said there were insufficient grounds for finding that the evidence of the policemen was untrue. Even if there was direct evidence that the police had assaulted Dr. Haffeejee, this would have been irrelevant to the main issue as all medical experts were agreed that none of these injuries had contributed to the cause of death, he added.

Mr. Blunden said there was "no suggestion by anyone that Dr. Haffeejee's death could be attributed to any homicidal act by any person or persons". No one had a motive for killing him and his death was an obvious embarrassment to the police.

On the other hand, he added, Dr. Haffeejee had "a strong motive for doing away with himself". He had been suspected of engaging in subversive activities and had been found in possession of incriminating documents including one that proposed a general strike in South Africa with a view to setting up a socialist people's republic.

Degrees are called tickets to nowhere

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 15

A university degree is "fast becoming a ticket to nowhere", the International Labour Organization says in the latest issue of its monthly *Information*.

An ILO report on the employment conditions of professional workers includes an estimate that, in the United States alone, some 420,000 new doctorate graduates will be competing for 200,000 jobs between 1974 and 1985.

For ordinary graduates in the United States, the estimate is a 950,000 surplus over the same period. Surpluses of 16,000 engineers, architects and scientists can be expected in France in 1981.

In France 45,000 professional managerial personnel were without work in 1976, compared with 14,000 in 1971. At the end of 1976 some 25,000 new graduates, a third of the annual output, were registered as seeking jobs.

Women are being very badly hit by this situation, says the ILO, for at an equal level of qualification employers often prefer to recruit men. In the United States, the unemployment rate among women engineers and scientists with PhD degrees, according to the latest available statistics, is four times higher than that of men.

If the communist countries have confined the problem by manpower planning and limiting admissions to universities, the phenomenon is more marked in some developing countries than it is in the West. The number of jobless graduates in India rose tenfold between 1966 and 1971.

Graduates accepting jobs for which they are overqualified set off a chain reaction, forcing other workers into employment categories below their training and experience.



Houses and huts in suburban Ouzai, south of Beirut, damaged in the Israeli attack.

Egypt seeks big power intervention

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, March 15

Egypt tonight condemned Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon. Mr. Muhammad Kamel, the Foreign Minister, described it as "a systematic annihilation of the Palestinian people".

He added that the attack was a serious escalation of the Middle East conflict and another flagrant violation of the United Nations charter.

The Israeli action placed fresh obstacles in the path of efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, Mr. Kamel stated. In his view, the Israeli attack was also "a blatant violation of the sovereignty of a United Nations member state (Lebanon)".

Mr. Kamel denounced a statement by General Mouchal Gur, the Israeli Chief of Staff, in which the general spoke of his country's intention of establishing "a security belt" inside Lebanese territory.

"This proves that Israel still believes Israeli security can be achieved by aggression and expansion and not through a just and permanent peace in the Middle East based on United Nations resolutions and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

Mr. Kamel urged the five big powers—the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China—to "shoulder their responsibilities and stop this (Israeli) aggression immediately".

He urged the big powers to put the Middle East situation back on the peace-making course, a peace based on respecting the Palestinian people's rights, Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and Israel giving up the policy of aggression and expansion.

Mr. Kamel tonight summoned the ambassadors of the United States, Britain, France and West Germany and asked them that their countries should intervene to stop the Israeli attack on Lebanon.

New York, March 15.—Lebanon's United Nations representative today handed Dr. Kurt



Mr. Begin, Israeli Prime Minister, arrives by helicopter for a tour of the Lebanese border area. Behind him is Mr. Weizman, his Defence Minister.

Waldheim, the Secretary-General, a letter complaining about the Israeli attack on southern Lebanon and reserving the right to call a meeting of the Security Council.

"So far we are relying on our appeal to the major members of the Security Council, the international community and the Secretary-General to intervene and stop the invasion of Lebanon," Mr. Chassan Tueni told reporters.

"If this should prove unrealistic as an approach, then we will have a debate in the Security Council tomorrow. We want peace," he added.

David Cross writes from Washington: Although President Carter and his foreign policy advisers are "continuing to watch the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon very closely," they have so far refrained from condemning the operation or calling publicly for it to end.

After talks at the White House this morning with Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's National Security Adviser, Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Secretary

of State, told reporters that "any situation like this, as well as (last weekend's) Palestinian terrorist attack, are impediments to the peace process".

The Administration would just have to find a way around them, he said, adding that Mr. Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was still expected to come to Washington next week for talks with President Carter.

Commenting on the raid, a spokesman for the State Department said that it had been clear for some time that "the presence of Palestinian military units in southern Lebanon has posed a threat to Israeli security and these units not only declared open hostility to Israel but have also launched terrorist attacks on that country, the most recent being the brutal act of last Saturday".

Asked about the purpose of the attack, the spokesman said the Administration "welcomed" the statement by Mr. Ezer Weizman, the Israeli Defence Minister, earlier today that it was not the objective of the Israeli Government extremists "bandit sally".

southern Lebanon. "Both privately and publicly we are arguing that violence must not be allowed to undermine the peace process which is the only way to end violence and in suffering of the peoples of the Middle East," the spokesman added.

Both the State Department and the White House have confirmed that Mr. Begin informed Mr. Carter about the raid when it was just beginning last night.

Michael Eby writes from Moscow: The Soviet Union today said the Israeli attack on Lebanon was made possible by American military support and the capitulatory policy of Egypt which "urged the hands of the Israeli Army in Sinai".

A commentary by the Soviet news agency Tass said the Israelis had launched the "unprecedented armed aggression" against Lebanon in order to occupy the southern part of the country. The recent armed clash between Palestinian guerrilla units and Israeli Army units in the suburbs of Tel Aviv was the pretext for the Israeli extremists' "bandit sally".

Levesque charm wins young minds

From Patrick Brogan
Quebec, March 15

Mr. Rene Levesque is the Premier of Quebec and can charm the birds out of the trees in French or in English. It is a quality sufficiently rare in politics to be an important electoral asset for the Parti Quebecois and Mr. Levesque used it the other day to win the hearts and minds of a "unity task force" from the William Jay Miller elementary school.

This was a group of 20 children, from a Toronto suburb, aged between nine and 12, who have been studying the Canadian federations' problems as a school project and Mr. Levesque's opinions on the matter and to give him their views. He was delighted to see them (the Premier of Ontario refused a request for a similar meeting) and spent an hour with them.

Premiers usually have better things to do: Mr. Levesque, who has been studying the grand of official business week and the children made it pleasant change. (His next appointment was giving an interview to *The Times*.)

Mr. Claude Ryan, a radio and television journalist, the Quebec Liberal Party, says that Mr. Levesque's chief weakness as Premier is a lack of administrative stamina. According to Mr. Ryan, he spends too much time talking to journalists and children and not enough at his desk.

But the children from Toronto loved it. They asked him preposterous questions and gave him a large ball of cotton wool with a paper face on it, stuffed with their messages. They offered him a draft constitution and almost every one of them wanted his autograph and got it. The girl in the class tried to recite a poem on federalism but collapsed two giggles and squeals of "I hate you" to her friend who was making faces.

Mr. Levesque took it in his stride. When a nine-year-old solemnly asked what would happen to the St. Lawrence seaway if Quebec separated, he got a straight answer. When slightly older children asked about the Manitoba ordinance, and Ontario's regulation 17, which affect the use of French in those provinces, he laughed and gave the soft answers the questions deserved.

He explained to them carefully and gently that French-speaking Quebecers want to use their language as freely as English-speaking people in Ontario. He tried to prevail on the children into speaking French and failed, and used that as an illustration. He asked them whether they would force one of the members of their unity task force to stay in the group if he got bored.

Mr. Levesque is small, active and a chain smoker who speaks English with just enough of an accent to give him a head start when addressing an English-speaking audience. Lloyd George and Bevan had the same advantage.

The children may not have been convinced by his arguments. However, persuasive as he is, there is no doubt that they went home assured that he is not the bodyman English Canada believes.

Dr Owen renews conference invitation at meeting with Chief Chirau

By David Spenser
Diplomatic Correspondent

Chief Jeremiah Chirau, leader of the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation (ZUPU), representing the tribal chiefs and headmen in Rhodesia, said yesterday that the "internal settlement" he helped to draw up in Salisbury, provided the best opportunity for solving the conflict and was the obvious way forward.

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, renewed his invitation to Chief Chirau to attend a proposed new conference on Rhodesia when he saw him for half an hour at the House of Commons on Tuesday.

This invitation, in Chief Chirau's view, constitutes British recognition of ZUPU, which the Foreign Office has always regarded as too close to Mr. Ian Smith to be taken seriously and which was not represented at the Geneva conference in 1976.

Chief Chirau, who is on a visit to London (and whose appointed office in Charing Cross Road), said that the idea of a conference on Rhodesia would now have to be considered by the new Executive Council, provided for under the internal settlement arrangements. The Patriotic Front

leaders have already rejected Dr Owen's invitation.

"The outside world must get used to the idea that they are now dealing with a unified team of four people and not four separate leaders as in the past," Chief Chirau said.

He added that he was quite certain that the internal settlement was approved by the people of Rhodesia. "We consult our people from time to time," he said, "at grass-roots level, at central executive level, and at national executive level. Therefore we know what we have done is acceptable".

Our Salisbury Correspondent writes: Supporters of Bishop Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council, are planning the biggest political rally yet held in Rhodesia when he returns to Salisbury on Sunday. The Bishop has been in Britain and the United States for the past fortnight endeavouring to "sell" the internal settlement to the United Nations and the international community in general as the best solution to Rhodesia's political problems.

Ostensibly he appears to have been unsuccessful, as both the British and American Governments have failed to endorse the Salisbury agreement and the United Nations Security Council this week condemned it. Nevertheless, the bishop is almost

certainly assured of a hero's welcome.

Only a few liberal elements have played any role in the Anglo-American proposals. Mr. David Mukome, the UANC's publicity secretary, said today that at least 1,500,000 people will turn out to greet the bishop at the African Highfield township, a few miles from the city centre. This is the rhetoric, but well over 100,000 will come from a similar overseas visit late last year and his political stock has probably risen since then.

Mr. Mukome said a massive rally would be the best way for Rhodesians to show the Security Council what they thought of its rejection.

The rejection came as no surprise to the UANC and the other three parties to the document—the Smith Government, the ANC (Sithole), and ZUPU. A UANC spokesman said the United Nations decision was "unbelievable".

The decision did please Mr. Josiah Chinamano, vice-president of the ANC (Zimbabwe), the internal faction which supports Mr. Joshua Nkomo. He said he was happy because the vote brought unity to the situation and Mr. Smith would now realize his mistake.

Amin major in Kenya after murder attempt

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, March 15

Major Bob Astles, President Amin's British-born aide, is in Kenya but does not expect to be freed from Uganda and says that he will return soon.

He admitted that attempts had been made to kill him in Uganda because he leads an anti-corruption unit which has been trying to stamp out the large-scale smuggling of coffee out of Uganda.

"I have annoyed a lot of people," he said. He had had some trouble in Lake Victoria while operating against coffee smugglers but would give no details.

He is understood to have made his way to Kenya by boat across Lake Victoria, just as he did in 1976 when he was a hurried departure to Kenya and then flew to Britain for several weeks, before returning to Uganda.

Born in Kent, he was a civil servant in Uganda before independence in 1963. He is now a Ugandan citizen.

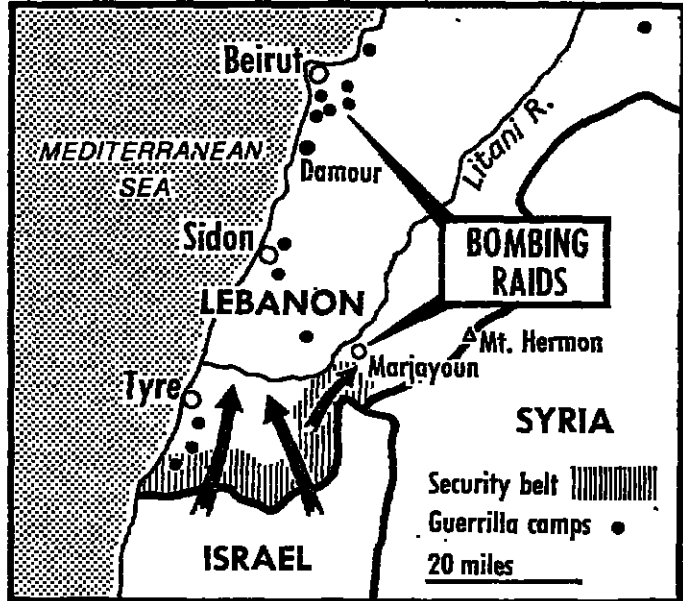
Leaders of US miners vote on latest offer

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 15

Members of the United Mine Workers' bargaining council were assembling in Washington today to vote on the mine owners' latest offer to improve wages and working conditions for the 160,000 coal miners striking in defiance of a court order.

Their approval is required before the offer can be put to a vote by the rank and file. The whole process of ratification would take between a week and 10 days.

The offer improves health insurance and pension provisions and drops earlier demands by the operators that leaders of wildcat strikes should be penalized. It was made yesterday after several days of talks.



Karpov leads in masters' chess match

Bugojno, Yugoslavia, March 15.

Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world chess champion, was today in the lead of the International Grandmasters' Tournament here after the fourteenth round was played last night.

However, his lead was seen to be temporary only because the fourteenth round match between Mikhail Tal and Boris Spassky, two former Soviet world champions, was adjourned with chances of Spassky to win, which would put him in the lead.

The fifteenth and last round will be played tomorrow.

At the fourteenth round: Boris Spassky (USSR) defeated Anatoly Karpov (USSR) 1-0. Anatoly Karpov (USSR) defeated Boris Spassky (USSR) 1-0. Boris Spassky (USSR) defeated Anatoly Karpov (USSR) 1-0. Anatoly Karpov (USSR) defeated Boris Spassky (USSR) 1-0.

Seal slaughter suspended to allow for pupping

St Anthony, Newfoundland, March 15.—Sealers temporarily halted their annual hunt yesterday to allow pregnant cows to deliver their pups before resumption of the slaughter of baby seals.

A spokesman for the Fisheries Department said that the suspension may continue for several days. There was an agreement between the hunters and us that they would stop the hunt to allow for pupping. Three ships are bogged down in the ice and there is virtually no activity at all on the ice floes.

Flood dam for Leningrad

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow, March 15

A barrage is to be built across the mouth of the river Neva to protect Leningrad from flooding. The Leningrad City Council today agreed to the project as protection against the unexpected surges

Syria to supply anti-aircraft guns in Lebanon

Beirut, March 15.—Syria will supply anti-aircraft batteries to the Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon for use against Israeli aircraft, a spokesman of the Syrian-dominated force said today.

The Syrian decision was in answer to a request from the five-nation peace-keeping force, the spokesman said, because Israeli aggression was continuing.

The 30,000-strong peace-keeping force, mainly composed of Syrians, has been in Lebanon since the end of the civil war in November, 1976. It is under the direct authority of President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon and is commanded by Lebanese Colonel Sami el-Khatib. —Agence France-Presse.



You can do yourself a good turn and help retired people if your home is now bigger than you need.

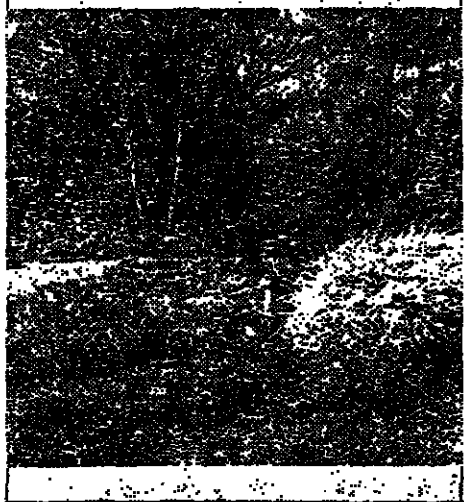
The national charity, Help the Aged, will convert one portion of the house into a modernized, and usually self-contained, flat for your use for the rest of your life or that of your spouse. In return for making the house over to the charity you will also be relieved of the cost of all rates, rent and external repairs. The portion of the house you no longer need will be converted for the use of retired people.

This sensible way of solving your problem and helping others is worth your consideration. Why not send for details? They will be sent entirely without obligation.

Write to: The Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T6C, 32 Dover St., London W1A 2AP.

COUNTRY LIFE

SPRING GARDENS NUMBER



ANNUALS FOR COLOUR AND SCENT

Christopher Lloyd suggests some varieties of hardy annuals that will provide colour and scent in the garden throughout the year.

A LIVING HERITAGE WORTH CONSERVING Will Ingwersen describes some plants native to this country and often seen growing in the wild that can be cultivated in small gardens.

CLOTHING THE NORTH WALL

J. R. B. Evison provides some tips for those gardeners who wish to grow plants in the most difficult site of the garden—the wall facing north.

BORDER FOR A COLOUR-BLIND MAN

Nancy-Mary Goodall describes how the right combination of shape and texture can provide pleasure in the border for the colour-blind.

CLEARING THE NEW PLOT

Donald Johnson advises gardeners on the best equipment to make easier the chore of clearing a new plot for planting.

COUNTRY LIFE

Spring Gardens Number

On sale now

OVERSEAS

Moscow comes out in support of Ethiopia against the Eritreans

Moscow, March 15.—The Soviet Union made it clear today that it saw ideological and political grounds for supporting the Ethiopian Government against rebels in its northern province of Eritrea.

A spokesman in a commentary on the Ethiopian situation said that the Soviet Union was "not in a game played by others (and) are objectively supporting the realization of the Ethiopian people's desire for a united and independent state."

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According to Western reports from Eritrea in January, Soviet and South Yemeni troops were taking an active part in the fighting to suppress the rebellion.

Rome, March 15.—Eritrean rebels said today that Ethiopian government forces had launched an offensive to break out of the besieged provincial capital of Asmara.

But a spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front said that rebel units had pushed back government forces towards the city in fierce fighting that started yesterday.

"The majority of the Ethiopian forces were forced to retreat to Asmara," he said.

According to the rebels, the Ethiopian Government has about 25,000 troops in Asmara.

Somali forces complete Ogaden withdrawal

Charles Harrison
Mogadishu, March 15.—Somalia announced today that all its regular forces had withdrawn from Ethiopia territory, in accordance with the decision announced last week by the United Nations.

He said that the withdrawal was complete and that the Somali Government was now concentrating its forces on the Ogaden region.

He said that the Somali Government was now concentrating its forces on the Ogaden region.

Mogadishu, March 15.—Mr. Richard Luce, Conservative MP for Shoreham, said after a three-day visit to Somalia that the influx of refugees from the Ogaden was causing a humanitarian problem.

He said that the Somali Government was now concentrating its forces on the Ogaden region.

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Senator from Minas Gerais throws down welcome challenge to Geisel candidate

Radical change sought in Brazil

Patrick Knight
Rio de Janeiro, March 15.—A candidate, Senator José Magalhães Pinto, who is a member of the governing Arena (National Alliance) party, has published a manifesto far more radical and than any opposition would dare to put forward.

He said that the Brazilian people were tired of the military regime and wanted a return to civilian rule.

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China plans to catch up on study of science

Peking, March 15.—China was looking to science to achieve modernization, but did not expect to overtake the world in many areas before the year 2000, Professor Chien San-chiang, a leading Chinese nuclear physicist said in Peking today.

He told foreign correspondents that China was "not in a game played by others (and) are objectively supporting the realization of the Ethiopian people's desire for a united and independent state."

Professor Chien is vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Science and director of the Institute of Atomic Energy. He is known in the West as Tseien San-chiang, the French version of his name used on many papers he has written.

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Law Report March 15 1978

Court of Appeal

Conviction of former police chief quashed

Regina v. Virgo

Before Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane, Mr. Justice Thompson and Mr. Justice Stephen Brown.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by former Commander Wallace Harold Virgo, one-time head of the Metropolitan Police, against his conviction for conspiracy to defraud the Metropolitan Police.

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LEGAL NOTICES

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry for Higher Education and Scientific Research
Directorate of Infrastructure and University Equipment
Sub-Directorate of Purchasing and Contracts

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER No. 3/78

International tenders are invited for the decoration and equipment of the cinema in the Women's University City at Ben-Aknoum.

Tender documents are available from: Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique—Direction de l'Infrastructure et de l'Équipement Universitaire, 1 rue Bachir Attar, Place du 1er mai, Algiers, as from the date of publication of this International Invitation to Tender.

Tenders with the enclosures required should be sent in two sealed envelopes to: Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Direction de l'Infrastructure et de l'Équipement Universitaire, 1 rue Bachir Attar, Place du 1er mai, Algiers.

In addition to the above address, the outer envelope should also be marked: "A.O.I. No. 3/78—Cité Universitaire de Jeunes Filles de Ben-Aknoum—SOUMISSION—NE PAS OUVRIR".

Tenders may be submitted during 30 days following the date of publication of this advertisement.

Bidders will remain bound by their offers for a period of 120 days following the closing date of this invitation to tender.

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry of Information and Culture
Radiodiffusion Television Algérienne
Equipment Account

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER No. 414/E

International tenders are invited for the supply and installation of a mixed sound-broadcasting station comprising:

- one transmitter to transmit on hectometric wavelengths with directional aerial system;
- two transmitters to transmit on decametric wavelengths with aerial system.

Tenders should be sent in two sealed envelopes, addressed to: Ministère de l'Information et de la Culture, Direction de l'Administration Générale, 119 rue Didouche Mourad, Algiers, and should arrive by 15 June 1978.

Please note that letters not marked "APPEL D'OFFRES No. 414/E—NE PAS OUVRIR" will be opened and considered null and void.

The tender document is available against payment of a handling fee of two hundred (200) Dinars from: R.T.A., Direction des Services Techniques et de l'Équipement, 21 Boulevard des Martyrs, Algiers, Room No. 332 New Building.

COMPANY NOTICES

GESTETNER HOLDINGS LIMITED
Notice of Dividend
The Board of Directors of Gestetner Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in England, has decided to pay a dividend of 0.075 pence per share for the year ended 31 December 1977.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF
Notice of Dividend
The Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Borough of... has decided to pay a dividend of... for the year ended 31 December 1977.

CITY OF BRISTOL
Notice of Dividend
The Board of Directors of the City of Bristol has decided to pay a dividend of... for the year ended 31 December 1977.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948
Notice of Dividend
The Board of Directors of... has decided to pay a dividend of... for the year ended 31 December 1977.

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Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

A sense of occasion

It is one of the ironies of fashion that clothes which are bought for a special occasion represent an outlay which ought to guarantee them as wearable every day and virtually indestructible, if not bullet-proof. In fact, they tend to be made in the least practical—if lovely—fabrics; and, what is more, special occasion clothes are subject to hazards all their own.

The hazards tend to be divisible into the indoor and outdoor type. Indoors, the hired help at the formal banquet is not above tipping the vichyssoise down your spine in the excitement of the moment, and that does wonders for crepe, I can tell you. Once at dinner the waiter spilled red wine on my white crepe trousers and my escort sought to rectify matters with a douchette from the jug of cold water. I left the function with one trouser leg four inches shorter than the other.

The other great indoor hazard is the canapé. This noxious snack not only ruins your gloves (which are "special occasion" too, and cost far more than your usual woolly mitts) but are frequently so disgusting that not only children, who are naturally selective, but fully grown persons drop them around the place. Never sit down on a chair just vacated by a small bridal attendant. In fact, never sit down at all in the presence of canapés, unless you want to ruin your pure silk dress.

Outdoor hazards include being expected to sit on the wet grass and have a jolly picnic in your chiffons and being regarded as dreadfully vain and fashion-conscious if you point out that actually grass stains are just about irremovable. Pushing the car out of the impromptu park in the paddock is a good local wedding sport too, especially when the mud spins up behind you and you get a foot of exhaust on your knees. And everyone knows better than to wear new shoes to a reception in a marquee, do they not? It is never just the tennis court which gets wrecked, through the coconut matting.

Having said all this I am aware that a substantial section of the female population still want to buy something special and look fabulous, if only for a day, or until the cleaner tells them what reparations are going to cost. "No, it won't wash, yes, it is pure silk/crepe/chiffon/satin/lace, of course it will crease—everything creases except armour and that's not comfortable, yes, it will have to be very carefully cleaned and repleated, too."

Thus, says Murray Arbeid, a designer who makes some of the most elegant and wearable special occasion clothes to be found in Britain. I quote him in firm flight, at the opening of his new boutique in Cresta House, Harrogate. Dapper and convincing, Mr Arbeid had no problems in getting the message across to a collection of Cresta's best customers. They looked promising, I thought, every one in a fur coat—mostly new furs, too—in fur hats, and the sort of velvet and feathered millinery which used to be called "confections". To a lady, they hung on his words, and it was clear that at any moment his frocks were going to be hung on them.

But then Cresta House customers are exceptionally knowledgeable about what to wear—for the simple reason that this diminutive, entirely personal and delightful store still actually bothers to tell Mrs X and Mrs Y not only what they ought to wear, and with what, but also what Mrs Z will be sporting for the same function. Consternation if two prominent personalities should arrive in the same gown!

Cresta House in Harrogate is one of a group of fashion speciality stores started by Eric Crabtree, and now part of the Debenhams Group. The two others are in Bedford and York. Not having visited these, I cannot certify that the feeling is the same there, but my guess is that it would be. Cresta House carries a narrow range of the best known and you might say best-loved of English classic clothes—Anascutum, Weatherall, Windsmoor, Rayne shoes, Cresta's own label things—and tops up with long-running continental names such as Tricots. Murray Arbeid fits perfectly into the atmosphere of the store.

Cresta House also has an excellent millinery department, headed by the sort of mature woman I thought had vanished from British retailing. Mrs Brook knows all her customers personally, sees them by appointment, puts them firmly and flatteringly into Frederick Fox or Dior, or a snappy straw boater. I have not heard the phrase "I'm putting Miss so-and-so into this for the wedding" for an age—and what a rise of confidence it gives one.

No publicity can be bad, they say. But I would question that statement in the case of David Shilling, a really talented milliner, a designer of hats

which actually take a few years off rather than piling them on and which are finely made and original. The name Shilling—in relation to hats—means to most people those monstrously his mother wears an Ascot and which are, indeed, made by David.

No matter that Mrs Shilling's motives are admirable—by attracting attention she can garner interest for her charitable enterprises—the hat-pins are embedded in the public skull. David Shilling usually gets labelled as clearly as the ricker in the Mad Hatter's toppe—and as quickly dismissed.

I always find his collections attractive; his sense of colour is good, his grasp of current silhouette precise. Above all he has a sense of occasion, which is crucial for special dressing. After all, what fun is there in buying something rather expensive something you are not going to wear much, without the designer entering into the spirit of the thing? Hats are currently very much in fashion. Valentino's whole couture collection (well, not the ball gowns) was accompanied by ravishing chip straw hats. Hair, face, hats: 1978 is the year of long hair, different coloured hair, new makeup for the new pastel colours... and something on the head, perhaps even a wreath of flowers. David Shilling does hats with a detachable circle or crown or a jewelled hairslide—or just a smashing hat.

Some months ago I wrote about a shop called Chateaufort in Chelsea, Manor Street which provides splendidly made-to-measure clothes—and off-the-peg clothes which are special. Designer Donald Campbell and his partner Jenny Lucas can dress anyone from the St Margaret's, Westminster, bride through to her globe-circumnavigating granny who wants something discreet, very chic and packable. Donald has now opened another shop under his own name at 8 William Street, Knightsbridge, SW1. The attention to detail and quality will give Mr Campbell a chance to "flutter his wings a little". Many designers like this two-tier system; only somebody of proven ability achieves it.

● Right: Pale lilac silk three-piece, from the new Cresta in Harrogate. The fine silky-cord embroidery around the neck and sleeves is by Lock, one of the last remaining expert embroiderers in this country. It costs £350, also comes in apricot, eau de nil, peach and cream, and is also available at Johnson of Sloane St., Robina of New Bond St., Dorothy Rowley in Watford, Staff, Beatrice Kay in Edinburgh, Potter Gilmore in Cardiff.

David Shilling's new fine straw hat is £88.50, and any colour is available to order, if the customer sends a swatch of material to match her outfit.

Black suede and gold kid high-heeled strap sandals, Manolo Blahnik for Zapata, 48 Old Church St., £40.

● Above right: The summer coat is back on the shopping list, now that lengths seem to have stabilized somewhere on the midcalf. This one from Peter Robinson is in the new colour, powder blue; and like the highly successful coats in Hardy Amies latest collection, it is unlined. His coats are double-face, like the Continental variety; and while this, for the price of only £85.95, cannot be double-face, it is pure new wool; also in pink and cream.

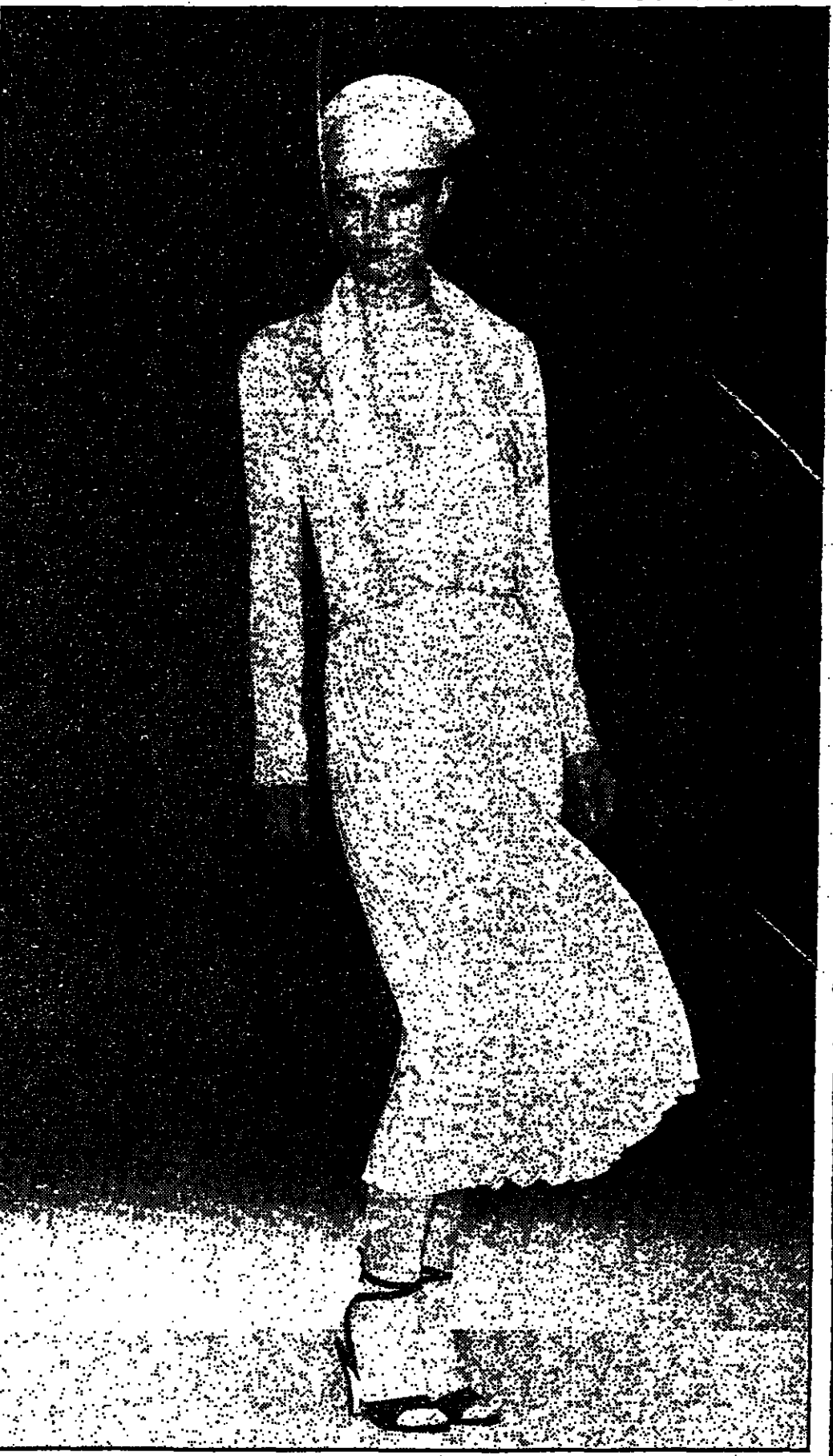
The skirt is a beautiful gathered, heavy grey-flecked tweed silk, at the surprising price of £14.94. It comes from Strawberry Studio, who try to keep prices as low as possible for a young market. It can be bought at Peter Robinson Top Shop and Che Guevara in Kensington High Street, and out of town at the Top Shop in Norwich and Cloud Nine in Leicester.

The blouse is fine white cotton linen, £30.20 by Jousse, from Way in at Harrods, Dickens and Jones, and June Daybell of Cheltenham.

Hat by David Shilling (as above.)



Photographs by Serge Krongauz



P.S. on hats

From March 13 to April 21, the National Gallery is running what they describe as "Mad Hats: an Easter quiz for children". It seems to have struck the gallery all of a heap that there is some extremely strange headgear around their walls, and children will now have the chance to tell all us fashion analysts why everyone is wearing what they are

and where. Since I find the views of children a constant source of delight, refreshment and original thinking (and they know nothing of sumptuary laws), I hope the National Gallery will, in return for my mentioning their event, let me have a look at the quiz sheets. Children should take a pencil to the event, open Monday to Saturday 10.00 to 18.00, Sunday 14.00 to 18.00.

Christian Dior—London have pleasure in advising their clients that the Spring/Summer Collection is now available in the boutique at 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

General Vacancies

Naval Regional Officer

£7,340

This Salford-based post is concerned with questions of Naval import in the NW Region and entails regional consultation with other Government Departments and Civil Authorities. The work involves fostering public interest in, and protecting the position and reputation of, the Royal Navy particularly in areas not covered by designated naval authorities; serving on regional boards and committees; developing plans to assist the civil authorities in national emergencies.

Candidates (aged under 55) must have served in the Royal Navy as a Senior Captain or above. The ability to establish and maintain good relations

with regional authorities, government departments and other bodies, is essential; and a wide local knowledge of, or association with, the region desirable.

Appointment will be for a fixed period, normally of 5 years, but with the possibility of extension.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 10 April, 1978) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencor Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG27 1JZ, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside hours). Please quote G/9758.

Ministry of Defence

A wide-ranging role for Applied Economists

Economists in Government Service are involved in a wide range of work, including policy analysis, briefing, forecasting and research on micro- and macro-economic problems. The GES is centrally managed and there are opportunities to move between departments, for secondment outside the Civil Service, and for special leave for study and research purposes.

There are now vacancies for Economic Advisers and Senior Economic Assistants in London; an Economic Adviser in Glasgow; and a Senior Economic Assistant in Edinburgh. Others may arise.

Economic Adviser

Candidates should normally be at least 27 with a 1st or 2nd class honours degree, or postgraduate degree, in economics or a closely related subject. Substantial relevant experience is essential. Start-

ing salary (Inner London) within the range £6,665-£8,435.

Senior Economic Assistant

Candidates should normally have at least three years' postgraduate experience. Starting salary (Inner London) within the range £4,885-£5,685.

Salaries £465 less in Scotland. Promotion prospects to £11,000 and above. Appointments are pensionable and can be permanent or for a fixed period.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 April, 1978) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencor Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG27 1JZ, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. A(2)622/1.

GES Government Economic Service

National Eczema Society

Invites applications for the newly created post of

General Secretary

The successful applicant will be based at the charity's office in Central London. He or she will be required to undertake a wide range of duties and to liaise with the Society's branches throughout the British Isles. Travel will be involved. The duties will also involve the development of existing contacts with the medical profession and public and private organisations and expansion of a national counselling service. A salary in the region of £5,000 p.a. is envisaged.

The post offers considerable opportunity for a suitable person to play a key role in the development of the work of this young and influential medical charity.

Applications by letter, enclosing curriculum vitae, to:

THE CHAIRMAN,

NATIONAL ECZEMA SOCIETY,

8/7 TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON, WC1H 9SR.

ADVERTISEMENT SALES EXECUTIVE

FOR SPECIAL REPORTS

The Times has a vacancy for an experienced Sales Executive in the Special Reports Department to work as a small team leader and to be responsible for the recruitment and training of new staff. Candidates should have a good educational background, have several years' successful sales experience and be highly motivated. They must be able to work on their own initiative, be self-starter, and have a good knowledge of the advertising industry. Please send full personal and career details to:

THE EMPLOYMENT MANAGER (REF. SR/10)

200 GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON WC1X 8EZ

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

has a vacancy for a Deputy Public Relations Consultant, preferably a senior executive who has retired earlier than usual. This post offers the opportunity of helping to manage our fund raising affairs through stamps and our Stamp Dept., in the W.1 area of London. 01-935 8473.

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE (U.K.) PROJECT OFFICER (Southern Africa)

This is a new post recently established to assist in the development of research and development of WUS programmes in Southern Africa. Candidates will have to have had experience in producing information and publicity materials at work, as well as in the field. They must be able to work on their own initiative, be self-starter, and have a good knowledge of the advertising industry. Please send full personal and career details to:

For further details write to:

Deputy General Secretary (Administration)

World University Service (UK)

20/21 COMPTON TERRACE

LONDON, N.1

Closing date for applications: 4th April, 1978.

Manage Manager

required for our G. Brompton Road, N.1. of a good manager, essential. Good salary, incentive for a part time involvement in work. Details to:

Box 8730 X, The

ARE YOU IN NEED

of a challenging job? If you are, then we have a vacancy for a Manager of a new business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the business, including the recruitment and training of staff. Salary £12,000 p.a. Opportunities also for foreign travel. Telephone: 01-571 338.

PUBLICITY/ADMINISTRATIVE PERSON

Required by Television W.1. A level English. Knowledge of typing. Salary £2,500. Apply Box 8725 X, The

MANAGEMENT PROSPECT

FOR ADMIN. C. Must have good knowledge of business. Salary £12,000 p.a. Apply to: Mr. Andrew Ashman, MANTIC PERSON SERVICES, Recruitment Centre.

ACCOUNTANT REQUIRED URGENT

Qualified, Chartered Accountant, working in a busy firm. Must be able to handle a wide range of accounts. Salary £12,000 p.a. Apply to: Mr. Andrew Ashman, MANTIC PERSON SERVICES, Recruitment Centre.

ENGLISH/ARABIC TRANSLATION

Required by the Ministry of Defence. Salary £12,000 p.a. Apply to: Mr. Andrew Ashman, MANTIC PERSON SERVICES, Recruitment Centre.

PERSONS FRIDAY FOR

Personnel Services. We are looking for a person to manage our recruitment and training services. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the business, including the recruitment and training of staff. Salary £12,000 p.a. Apply to: Mr. Andrew Ashman, MANTIC PERSON SERVICES, Recruitment Centre.

General Vacancies

Win a sponsored place
at University

and a flying start to your career.

Good 'A' levels in 1979 could qualify you for a Midland Bank sponsorship to University and a fast route to a top management career in finance.

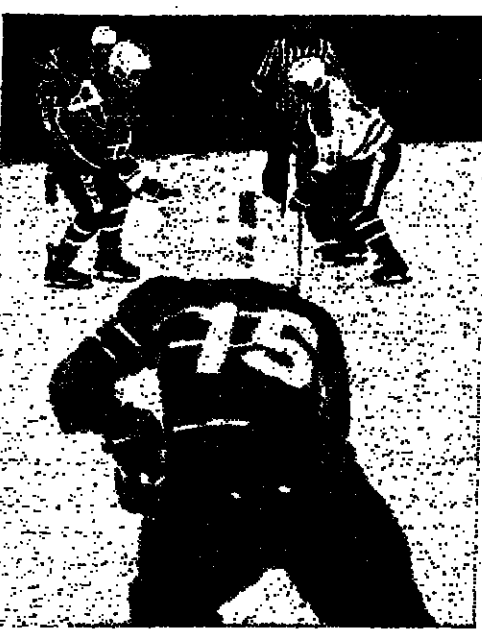
If you're thinking about attending university, Midland Bank can put you there as well as launch you on a great career. Our sponsorship scheme is specially designed for those who have talent and drive to reach the top.

How the Scheme Works:

Once accepted you will—

- Start with one year's accelerated training at Midland Bank on full pay.
- Follow on with a three year honours degree course at Loughborough University of Technology to a B.Sc. Honours Degree in Banking and Finance, on the normal local authority grant.
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- Undergo vacation training with the Bank in the Summer, on full pay.
- After graduation, return to further training at Midland Bank with the chance to achieve real responsibilities in your mid to late twenties. Full managerial status in your early thirties and opportunities to progress to salaries well in excess of £10,000.

The closing date for applications is the 30th September 1978.



What is required?

We are looking for—

- Exceptional young men and women of good character and outstanding personality.
- Some better than average 'O' level qualifications (or equivalent) including Mathematics and English Language.
- A minimum of 3 'A' levels with good grades.

If, after the initial year's training, either you or the Bank decide you are not compatible you may still have your place on the degree course.

Have a word with your Careers Teacher about this Scheme, or, for further information and an application form write to: The Manager, Graduate Recruitment, Midland Bank Limited, Graduate Recruitment Office, Courtwood House, Silver Street Head, Sheffield S1 3RD.

NOTE: Only those taking 'A' levels in 1979 within the normal range of 17/19 should apply. Students taking 'A' levels in 1978 are not eligible.

You and Midland Bank.
Together, we make a great team.MARKETING FUNCTION
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Regional and interior design firm seeks Manager for branch in Al-Khobar (Saudi Arabia). Yearly £16,000-£22,000 net. Furnished villa and car.

Send c.v. to:

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Stywood Group, with world-wide markets in the traditional and contemporary markets, is now seeking to strengthen its team for Europe through a local Representative for its expansion plans.

Successful candidate will be fluent in at least one language, will spend 6 months each year travelling and will have independent and initiative. Similar ceramic experience in Europe or the U.K. is a plus and promotion prospects are good.

Please apply in writing to the:

Personnel Manager,
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In the sector of economic and financial services for Italian companies in Arab Emirates with in Dubai.

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Experience in the field of international sales. Contract basis.

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London, W.C.1,
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Fax: Mr. Bryan Paves.

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Authority. Service Manager. Salary £15,000 p.a. plus benefits.

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to work on inter-ference books. Post-graduate, self-study, young, mature, or experienced, history to enter post-graduate with a view to writing in your own field.

Apply to: The Editor,
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London, E.C.4, 01-753 4000.

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Wanted for busy M.P. not necessarily full time basis. Prior E.E.C. knowledge helps. Deal at Commission provided. Write Box 0585 K, The Times.

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Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE.

1. PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURE (Crop Science). Applicants should have M.Sc. or Ph.D. and must have wide experience in crop science and research in tropical areas. Preference will be given to applicants who have previously held a senior position in a research organization.

2. SENIOR LECTURER (Crop Science). Applicants should have M.Sc. or Ph.D. and must have wide experience in crop science and research in tropical areas. Preference will be given to applicants who have previously held a senior position in a research organization.

3. LECTURER (Crop Science). Applicants should have M.Sc. or Ph.D. and must have wide experience in crop science and research in tropical areas. Preference will be given to applicants who have previously held a senior position in a research organization.

Salary scales: Professor: £17,280-£24,000 p.a.; Senior Lecturer: £12,000-£16,000 p.a.; Lecturer: £8,000-£12,000 p.a.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL POLICY
AND ADMINISTRATION

Applications are invited for two posts of RESEARCH FELLOW on a comparative study of social policy for the elderly which is being directed by Professor J. H. J. Frisvold. The appointments are for two years from May 1978 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Candidates should have appropriate qualifications and experience in the social sciences or social research, in one of the appointments a knowledge of the social policy of the elderly in the U.K. is essential. In economics, since an evaluation of the costs of provision will form an important part of the study, a knowledge of the economics of social policy is also desirable.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Department of Social Policy and Administration, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT. Closing date for applications 17 April 1978.

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MARKETING ASSISTANT

If you have clerical experience and can type, you'll find this position can offer you an opportunity to play an important role in the marketing activities of a major international company.

Unroast is a leading manufacturer of products for the automotive, industrial and consumer markets and as a Marketing Assistant at our head quarters in Westminster, you'll be providing a liaison between the sales and marketing departments and the production and distribution departments.

It's a job open to both men and women, so if you're numerate, literate and articulate we can provide you with a good salary, lots of interest and career prospects. You should have a good standard of education including O level Maths and if you have some sales or marketing administration experience so much the better.

Write, quoting contact telephone number, to the Personnel Manager, Unroast Limited, 62 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AH. Closing date for applications, April 3rd.

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Academic, creative, water skills, swimming, canoeing, etc. 040 7782 800.

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(Post 78/9)

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For the first vacancy, the successful candidate is expected to teach Microbiology and to carry out research in the field of bacteriology and immunology. The successful candidate will be expected to undertake research and teaching duties. The salary scale is: (a) £17,280-£24,000 p.a. (b) £12,000-£16,000 p.a. (c) £8,000-£12,000 p.a. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

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3 LECTURESHIP IN DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY



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Wanted for a 25-35 year old who has experience in international banking, preferably with the euro dollar market, and is able to speak French. This candidate should also have some basic book-keeping skills and be highly proficient in all the basic secretarial skills including Telex. If you have the ability to work on your own initiative and are looking for a challenging and rewarding career, please write to us.

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SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A major United States corporation with world-wide interests in the entertainment and allied fields require a Secretary/Administrative Assistant with highly developed sense of loyalty, responsibility and honour. The successful applicant will join a small professional team engaged in investigations and reviews of subsidiary operations in Europe. The position is located in central London and would suit an older mature person with good shorthand/typing standards capable of using initiative to look after normal office routines when the team is travelling. Pleasant conditions and usual benefits. Salary not less than £3,500 p.a.

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Applications are invited for the post of personal secretary to the Rector of Imperial College of Science and Technology. The post is full time, permanent and involves a high level of responsibility and a wide range of interesting and demanding tasks. The successful candidate will be responsible for the Rector's office, including the organisation of his diary, correspondence, and the preparation of reports and documents. The Rector's office is a busy and important part of the College's administration. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent shorthand and typing skills, and to be able to work independently and to take initiative. The post is located in central London and would suit a mature person with good shorthand/typing standards and a high level of responsibility. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent shorthand and typing skills, and to be able to work independently and to take initiative. The post is located in central London and would suit a mature person with good shorthand/typing standards and a high level of responsibility.

Further particulars and application form from Sir Brian Flowers, Rector, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London SW7 2BZ, to whom applications (marked confidential) should be sent to arrive not later than 12 April 1978.

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are looking for a first class Secretary/P.A. for their busy Production Director.

Applicants must have good shorthand/typing (IBM Golfball), not be afraid of clerical duties or schedule typing, be adaptable, methodical, and level-headed under pressure. In return we offer pleasant working conditions, job variety and salary around £4,000 p.a.

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£4,500 + BONUS STRATFORD, E.15
The Head of Personnel for an International Corporate Bank in modern offices in Stratford, E.15 needs a Senior Secretary/P.A. This post is full time, permanent and involves a high level of responsibility and a wide range of interesting and demanding tasks. The successful candidate will be responsible for the Personnel Department's administration, including the organisation of the department's diary, correspondence, and the preparation of reports and documents. The Personnel Department is a busy and important part of the Bank's administration. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent shorthand and typing skills, and to be able to work independently and to take initiative. The post is located in central London and would suit a mature person with good shorthand/typing standards and a high level of responsibility. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent shorthand and typing skills, and to be able to work independently and to take initiative. The post is located in central London and would suit a mature person with good shorthand/typing standards and a high level of responsibility.

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Ronald Butt

Are the Tories ready to go comprehensive?

Mrs Shirley Williams is prepared to admit that we (you are free to interpret the "we" as you wish) have not yet got the comprehensive school system quite right. Her department even arranged a two-day conference of head teachers and local authority representatives recently to try to discover the secret of the success of some comprehensives and the failure of others.

This laudable exercise predictably failed to uncover any clear principles for general application. Mrs Williams herself is inclined to think that the answer may lie in smaller schools, but this is a solution fraught with difficulties.

Still, anything seems better to Mrs Williams and her department than reopening the question of the comprehensive structure more generally. They are prepared to tinker with it at the edges, but they are convinced that it is here to stay and to be applied ubiquitously. Mrs Williams is convinced that even if the Tories won the next election, it would make no essential difference to this.

She certainly fears no ill from Mr Norman St John Stevas. He (she playfully feels) is a civilized fellow out of the same stable as she. Like Mrs Williams, he is of course, a Liberal Roman Catholic, who on such matters is very much part of the consensus which unites what used to be called the "jerkies".

Of course, Mr St John Stevas has attitudes on education that Mrs Williams does not care for. She does, for instance, approve of his proposal to restore the direct-grant schools in a new form.

Direct grants to independent schools for the benefit of children from poorer families are increasingly likely to encourage dissatisfaction with what the state offers in many places.



Mrs Shirley Williams: tinkering with the system.

And, in any case, Mrs Williams herself feels a surprisingly deep animosity towards the independent schools for one who, until she became responsible for her department, sent her daughter to a free voluntary-aided school. She has now gone independent to preserve its academic standards.

Mrs Williams freely admits that she would like to abolish the independent schools if she could, and her reason is that she sees them all as the principal bulwark of class divisiveness. Of course, she knows she cannot do it, and anyway recognizes that such an action would not square with her libertarian conscience. So she will do what she can to nibble away at the foundations of the independent schools, hoping they will eventually disappear.

For example, she would like to remove the educational allowances which are paid to public servants abroad for the education of their children at boarding schools, on which many independent schools rely quite heavily—though I think she will succeed in that only over the dead bodies of the Ministers of Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Defence.

She would also like to try, if she possibly can, to undermine the charitable status of independent schools, though she feels frustrated by the cleverness with which they manage to lock into the trusts which sustain them and other good but less controversial causes—which makes it harder to attack the schools themselves.

But, of course, she sees her main task as the preservation and improvement of a comprehensive system—one without exceptions in the state sector—and she believes that Mr St John Stevas also recognizes that the comprehensive system, more or less as it is, is here to stay.

Nor does Mrs Williams scent

any threat from Mrs Thatcher who, when she was Conservative Education Secretary, adopted a fairly pragmatic approach. Mrs Williams thinks the Tory leader has deployed her forces very cleverly by putting the fortnight Dr Rhodri Iwan Jones, 2 for education in order to attract the votes of dissatisfied parents, while making sure that Mr St John Stevas will be there to carry out the apostolic mission of the comprehensive principle if the Tories win—with only a few minor liturgical changes as a gesture to opposition.

As for Dr Boyson, Mrs Williams thinks that he will have done his job when the votes are gathered in, and I gather that she is prepared to take a modest bet that when the day of electoral victory dawns for the Tories, Mrs Thatcher will not appoint Dr Boyson to education. On this thesis, he is licensed to bark now, but will not be allowed to bite in office.

Well, nobody knows whom Mrs Thatcher will appoint to what, except Mrs Thatcher—though my impression is that personally she is very sympathetic to Dr Boyson's approach to education. And it is certainly true that Dr Boyson is more frankly eager than Mr St John Stevas to push Tory education policy against the consensus.

It is Dr Boyson who has obtained something like a Tory commitment to a limited experiment in an educational voucher system. It is also Dr Boyson who, having secured the existence of such time-scale suitable to local conditions, and where the change has not been effected before the next election, it will be perfectly proper for a Conservative government to free local authorities of any obligation to make the change.

It is obviously not easy to guess how many grammar

The press image of Ulster



An IRA news conference: suppressing the truth?

From the vicious street riots of the late sixties to the Provisional IRA's acquisition in early 1978 of a lethal cache of M60 rapid fire machine-guns, the reporting of events in Northern Ireland has consistently presented special problems for British newspapers and broadcasting organizations.

At the outset, newspapers were severely castigated for playing an indirect role in fermenting the crisis by their studied indifference to the grievances of the minority Roman Catholic population in the years immediately preceding the emergence of the civil rights movement.

As street violence flared and reporters began to replace commercial travellers as the main patrons of Belfast's handful of central hotels, British pressmen were repeatedly (and sometimes violently) accused of deliberate distortion by Ulster Protestants.

A classic example of the unique type of local difficulties encountered took place on the staunchly Loyalist Shankill Road when irate residents began to attack a BBC crew. Without a hint of tongue in cheek, one of the crowd furiously accused the cameraman of filming "things which are not happening".

The formation and growth of the Provisional IRA, a terrorist organization which over the years has thrived on propaganda, posed the most serious problem for British communicators. A recent series of angry exchanges between the Government, the BBC and the IRA have demonstrated that these early difficulties have not been solved, any more than the authorities have yet found a satisfactory formula for coping with the IRA which in part explains their extreme sensitivity.

Roy Mason, the Secretary of State, does little to disguise his fury at any attempt by television companies to try to explain the tragic spiral of violence by interviewing men known to have even the remotest links with the Provisionals.

Both he and the Tory spokesman, Mr Airey Neave, have accused the BBC of aiding and abetting terrorists by relaying film of a posed IRA road block displaying the American-made M60 for the first time in public. These repeated clashes have seriously embittered relations between politicians and local broadcasters, but have significantly failed to convince journalists that the suppression of unpleasant truths about the IRA's motives or weaponry can possibly advance progress towards eventual peace.

Apart from the continuing political and indigenous attacks on its performance in Northern

South Korea hopes to export almost a million cars a year by 1991

Beating Japan at its own game

"We can no longer depend on low wages. We are investing in modern sophisticated equipment to increase our competitive power."—Mr Chung Moon Do, president of Hyundai ship yards.

"Ten years ago we opposed mechanization because we lost jobs. We now realize that automation and mechanization have promoted industrial development and in turn unemployment has dropped."—Mr Lee Hun-Ki, deputy general secretary of the Federation of Korean Trade Unions.

Twenty years have elapsed since Britain's textile industry was first threatened by the postwar onslaught of cheap Japanese goods on the international market. Today Japan's textile industry, saddled with high wage costs, is nearing bankruptcy as it attempts to compete with a flood of low-priced textiles pouring out of the mills and sweat shops of South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and South-East Asia.

A quick glance at the wage structure of the major textile manufacturers in Asia provides stark evidence of how the Japanese have been outpaced in labour intensive industries, such as textiles. For instance a textile worker in Korea receives an average salary of £39 a month, in Hong Kong £76, and in Japan £269.

At the moment a worker in the British textile industry is earning about £160 a month.

In Korea today the two major labour intensive industries, textiles and shoes, account for the largest share—40 per cent—of the country's export earnings.

But the wage costs in new up-and-coming textile industries in South-East Asia are even cheaper and South Korean

economists, drawing on the bitter experience of Japan and Britain, have taken rapid steps to re-structure the frame work of the nation's export machine as the economy moves away from low-wage labour-intensive industries towards modern automated competitive plants.

According to the strategy of the Korean development institute, textile exports will rise annually by 10 per cent over the next decade to an estimated annual \$15 billion in 1990.

However the Government has already introduced measures to restrain expansion and the textile industry's share of the country's total export earnings is expected to decline to 24 per cent in 1981 and 10 per cent in 1991.

"And it is here," as one European diplomat put it, "that the industrialized nations should take note of the writing on the wall."

With the decline of light labour-intensive factories during the next decade, the heavy and chemical industry's share in Korea's commodity export earnings is expected to rise rapidly from 34 per cent today to 72 per cent, or 540 billion by 1991.

According to macro-economic projections of the highly respected Korean development institute, the average monthly wage of semi-skilled Korean industrial workers will rise three times, from £50 today to £150 by 1991, at 1975 constant prices.

Mr Cha Soo Myung, director of the bureau of heavy machinery in South Korea's department of commerce and industry, says: "We are determined to change our export structure from light to heavy industry. To achieve this we

will increase investments in highly efficient heavy machinery and plants at the rate of 35 per cent a year."

"In 10 years, the established industrialized nations will face a new competitor—equipped with the most modern equipment and plants in the world, peering under extremely low wage costs," an American diplomat points out.

Just over a decade ago South Korea's shipyards consisted of an assortment of repair docks and antiquated facilities for constructing small wooden fishing vessels.

Today Korea ranks eighth among the world's leading nations of shipbuilders.

Two new ultra modern docks, the Okpo and Jukdo shipyards now under construction on Koje Island off the South-Eastern coast, will raise Korea's annual ship building capacity to 4.25 million gross tons when they are completed within the next three years.

Already a formidable competitor in international orders, South Korea then expected to emerge as the world's third largest exporter of ships in the late eighties.

Completed three years ago, South Korea's largest existing shipyard at Ulsan—has a total capacity of 2,400,000 gross tons and is capable of producing 18 supertankers (each 500,000 dead weight) and 60 medium size ships a year. The yard is also capable of constructing one 1m ton dead weight tanker.

While the world recession has forced Japan and other industrialized nations to operate their ship yards at half capacity during the past year, the Korean shipyard in the market has thrived on a spate of international orders. Exports rose during the first 10 months of

vehicles are marked for export. Under long-term plans, the Korean development institute claims that South Korea will manufacture two million cars by 1991.

By 1991, it is estimated that 500,000 will be exported.

A spokesman for Hyundai refused to discuss details of the company's production costs, raising the suspicion that low priced export cars will be subsidized by high priced domestic units for the time being.

In comparison to Japan, the productivity rating of the Korean car industry will remain low for years to come until vehicles are turned out on a mass scale. In 1981 a projected labour force of 70,000 workers is expected to produce 4.2 cars per worker per year. At the moment Japan's largest car manufacturer, the Toyota Motor Company produces 51 cars per worker per year.

Looking ahead at the future, one of the more perceptive envoys in Seoul says: "Europe will have to face up to more and more Korean goods in the future. Of course we can raise barriers to protect ourselves, but this would be wrong. First, it would be immoral. We have been telling the developing world to pull itself up by its boot straps. Second, we would be deluding ourselves. We would remain uncompetitive—and South Korea would then sweep third markets from under our feet. The answer is: Europe must become competitive."

Concluded...

Peter Hazelhurst

● The article on Iraqi women on page 20 yesterday was given by Marion Woolfson.

Christopher Walker

An ordinary house in an ordinary street



yet it could rescue 7 elderly people from loneliness

Abbeyfield buys and converts ordinary houses into about 7 bed-sitting-rooms each.

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Last but one of those Gaiety Girls?

She was the last of the Gaiety Girls, said the newspaper obituary columns a few weeks ago about Nettie Bainbridge who had danced her way into eternity at the age of 86.

She was not the last, says Judith Nelmes. She is 84, and the Gaiety Girls herself from 1912 to 1915, and to prove that she is very much alive, she dropped in to see me yesterday.

She is petite, lithe, lively and still acting. Symbolically, too, she has kept a grip on the theatre. She still has the door handle she removed from her old dressing room when the Gaiety was closed in 1938.

She ran away from home when she was 18. Her clergyman brother found her and took her back. She fled again, changed her name from Georgina Dunbar, was auditioned as a Gaiety singer by the legendary Georges Edwards ("I hope you can follow me," he imperiously told the resident pianist) and became one of his equally legendary Girls.

She did not have kings and dukes drinking champagne from her slipper. She did the next best thing, though. "I danced one night, all night, with Prince George of Greece. He came back later and asked for me at the theatre, but I wasn't there."

Spokeswoman

Michael Bentine, the Watford-born Peruvian, is getting very excited about a 4,500-mile bicycle ride through the tropical rain forests of the Amazon discovered much to their dismay and shock, that they can no longer compete with the Koreans.

Mr Chung Moon Do, the president of Hyundai Shipbuilding and Heavy Industries,

Live issue, and a dead one too

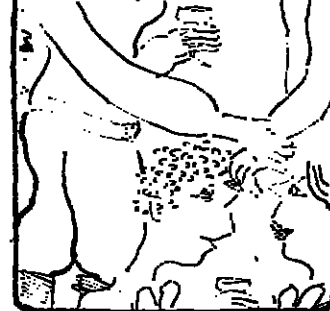
It is Panama Canal day in the United States, the big day when the Senate begins its debate on the body contested treaties which are the outcome of 13 years of thorny negotiations. One of the treaties will hand over the canal to Panama in the year 2000.

Very much a live issue, then. But there's a dead issue tied in with it. It concerns the fate of the graves of 5,000 American sailors who are buried in the Canal Zone.

Only now has the issue attracted any thought. The issue will not affect the Senate ratification vote, but it is a potent human overtones, and it seems strange that it has been overlooked.

If your knowledge of the canal is hazy, you should read David McCullough's *The Path Between the Seas* (Simon and Schuster) which W. H. Smith are distributing over here.

It is filled with fascinating tidbits. For instance: the highest toll paid by a passenger ship was by the QE 2—the sum of \$42,077, in 1975; the lowest was that paid by Richard Halliburton, writer, who swam the length of the canal in instalments in the 1920s and was charged 36 cents, based on his weight of 140lb.



An ambiguous phrase in my item last week on London Calling, the BBC external services publication, gave the impression that you cannot get it if you live in Britain. It cannot be bought from a newsagent, but it can be ordered from the BBC at Bush House, Strand, London.

The last stand of Edward Milne

One of the most interesting side-shows in the forthcoming general election could be at Blyth, where Edward Milne, the constituency's former Labour MP, will try to regain the seat on an independent ticket.

Mr Milne tells me that the result will decide his future. If he loses, he will ditch his political career and retire to Scotland or the Lake District.

Mr Milne was dropped by the local party after he kept on demanding an inquiry into corruption in the north-east in the aftermath of the Poulson case. He stood as an independent Labour candidate in February, 1974, and saw off Ivor Richard, who was sent off to the United Nations as a consolation prize by the incoming Labour Government.

He lost the October, 1974, election by only 78 votes and set up an independent Labour group. It now has 17 seats on Blyth Valley district council, taking away the Labour group's overall majority.

He says he has no regrets about making his stand against corruption, although it destroyed his political career after 14 years in the Commons. He knows now that there is nothing as ex-PM.

With no steady job, he survived for long periods on the proceeds of successful literary ventures. At one time the day around him was thick with writers.

Only a few weeks ago Lord Glenamara, formerly Edward Short, his wife, and Mr Silkin, the Minister for Agriculture, were awarded damages for allegations in Mr Milne's book *Shining Armour*. It will cost Mr Milne any profits he expected from the book.

Close encounters of all kinds

I congratulate Joseph P. Kelly, a Glasgow reader, on launching what cannot fail to be a national craze (though Marc panned the way for it with his cartoon in this diary yesterday). He has ingeniously adapted the title of the new science fiction film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* to suit other interests. Thus: *Close Encounters of the Blurred Kind* (for motorists); *Close Kind* (for archaeologists); *Stirred Kind* (for innkeepers); *Purred Kind* (for cat lovers); *Spurred Kind* (for horse race); *Kurd Kind* (for Levantines); *Furred Kind* (for ecologists); *Word Kind* (for literary set); *Curd Kind* (for farmers). I can offer only *Herd Kind* for those with a mass mentality. I cannot guarantee to print other variations, but I fear I may have to.

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A TRAGEDY FOR ISRAEL

The most significant reaction to Israel's invasion of south Lebanon is the Egyptian one. President Sadat has so far refused official comment, but *Al-Ahram* described Mr Begin as "the most fanatic of all Israeli leaders—an individual thirsting for the blood of all those whom he considers antisemitic, which means for him the population of the entire world, Christians, Muslims and atheists". Of course these remarks are absurd and disproportionate, as is so much of the comment in the Egyptian press on whoever is currently the object of Mr Sadat's disapproval. But such remarks should be made about the man who such a short time ago was "my friend Premier Begin" shows how little is left of Mr Sadat's peace initiative only four months after he launched it.

It must not be forgotten that the invasion was launched a matter of hours after Mr Sadat had condemned last Saturday's terrorist attack on Israel—an act of considerable moral courage since it is the first time an Arab leader has publicly criticized Palestinians for an action carried out on Israeli territory—and only a day after he had appealed through diplomatic channels to Israel not to retaliate. It was thus inevitable that Egypt should see it as the latest and worst in a series of brutal snubs to the Sadat initiative.

Of course the Israelis will reply that pleasing Mr Sadat cannot be their only consideration. Their first priority must be the protection of their own citizens. But the trouble is that faced with a choice between military and political methods of achieving security they seem to choose the military—a choice which is often the easier but not neces-

sarily the more effective one, especially in the long term. Thus the "cleaning up" of Palestinian bases in south Lebanon may perhaps ensure a respite for the villages of northern Israel from the intermittent shelling and rocket attacks to which they have been subjected over the past few years. But the Israelis themselves admit that it was not from this zone that last Saturday's attack was launched, but from Damur, the former Christian township just south of Beirut which since the Lebanese civil war has been transformed into a Palestinian refugee camp. Accordingly they have bombed Damur as well.

Both bombing of refugee camps and cleaning-up operations on Lebanese territory (admittedly hitherto on a smaller scale than the present one) have been a standard Israeli response to acts of Palestinian terrorism for nearly ten years now. But terrorism has not decreased. It is almost by definition a form of warfare which does not require a fixed and permanent base: it is precisely for that reason that it is usually the resort of those who know, as the Palestinians do, that in conventional military terms they are not remotely a match for their adversary.

Palestinian terrorism is not likely to stop until it can be demonstrated to Palestinians that they have a political alternative, or at very least until other Arabs feel that Palestinians no longer have any justification for continuing it, and accordingly deny them both moral and material support. By refusing to accept the idea of Palestinian self-determination even after a transitional period and in a demilitarized territory comprising

barely a fifth of pre-1948 Palestine, Israel has effectively blocked off all imaginative outlets for Palestinian national feeling other than violence, and by preferring a spectacular military action to the maintenance of her new relationship with Egypt, she has surely undermined whatever chance she had of isolating the Palestinians from the rest of the Arab world.

Even in the short term this operation involves very serious risks, as the Israelis themselves showed they were aware by the care they took to emphasize that it is not directed against Lebanon or the Palestinians, over both of whom she has claimed to hold a protective umbrella since the civil war in Lebanon ended. It is indeed an acute provocation to Syria, who so far has avoided reacting but is likely to come under severe criticism for her inability to protect either Lebanon or the Palestinians, over both of whom she has claimed to hold a protective umbrella since the civil war in Lebanon ended. It is also a provocation to the Soviet Union, which had also promised a degree of protection to the Palestinians after Mr Arafat's visit to Moscow last week.

The Sadat initiative was a great, though not an easy, opportunity for Israel. The intention was sincere, and it is not President Sadat who is to blame for the failure. The response of the Government of Israel was inadequate and is now disastrous. A *cordon sanitaire* in Lebanon is a poor recompense for the lost opportunity for peace. A small, brilliant and beleaguered nation shows the virtues of courage and determination. The tragedy is that, with their national survival at stake, the Israelis do not have a Government which rises to the virtue of wisdom.

A LOWER MIDDLE GRADE WHITE PAPER

The Government's White Paper on the Civil Service published yesterday (Wednesday) is not a landmark in the history of public administration. If it is remembered at all by posterity it will probably be as a minor skirmish in the continuing struggle between ministers and Parliamentary Select Committees trying to claw back a little power from the Executive. That battle will be joined in earnest once the Select Committee on Procedure has reported, but yesterday's observations from the Government were a depressing harbinger of things to come.

The one Parliamentary body before which Whitehall trembles is the Select Committee on Public Accounts. The Comptroller and Auditor General fills departmental books and presents backbenchers with a loaded revolver to fire at examples of mismanagement or impropriety. The effectiveness of this Parliamentary weapon stems from tradition and the skills of the 700 strong staff of the Exchequer and Audit Department. The Expenditure Committee wants them unleashed by a new Exchequer and Audit Act upon any body in receipt of public money. The Government have refused to allow the nationalized industries or the local authorities to fall within their remit. There is a case to be made for ministers' views on this. But their additional refusal to allow the Comptroller to trespass on areas that hurt, like current expenditure and policy matters, is regrettable if only to be expected. The whole tenor of the White Paper is out of sympathy with the welcome revival of interest in these matters by backbenchers.

Another issue on which the document has confined itself to a bland restatement of the conventional is ministerial responsibility. It is 24 years since Sir Thomas Digdale resigned over Crichel Down. Since then,

officials have become subject to a greater degree of personal and public accountability not only by select committees but before tribunals like the inquiry into the collapse of Vehicle and General in 1972. The First Division Association, representing senior civil servants, has been expressing disquiet on this score for a number of years. Sir John Hunt, Secretary of the Cabinet, in his remarkably frank *tour d'horizon* before the Expenditure Committee in February 1977 recognized that things had changed when he told MPs: "The concept that because somebody, whom the minister has never heard of, has made a mistake means that the minister should resign is out of date and rightly so. I think equally that a minister has got a responsibility which he cannot devolve entirely to his permanent secretary for the efficiency and drive of his department". The Expenditure Committee confronted the government with this new world. Ministers have pretended it does not exist.

On the positive side, the White Paper's proposals for better training of civil servants in mid career is welcome, though whether departments will prove willing to release their best people for it remains open to question; it is not to be the *sine qua non* of rising to the top as the Expenditure Committee recommended. Civil Service recruitment, using the extended interview technique, is the envy of many public services in the western world. But it is right that it should be reexamined once more, given the persistent concern that it has a bias towards candidates from the ancient universities and public schools. Acknowledgement that the special adviser drawn from outside Whitehall is here to stay, whatever the colour of the Government, is a welcome outbreak of realism. The Civil

Service Department should now consider drawing up a code of practice for "irregulars" appointed by direct ministerial patronage rather than competitive examination.

The last White Paper on the machinery of Whitehall, *The Reorganisation of Central Government*, published in 1970, was a weighty document, which set up the Central Policy Review Staff and adumbrated new techniques of government like Programme Analysis and Review which has been allowed to languish by Labour governments since 1974. Yesterday's successor was meagre by comparison. The Expenditure Committee may have its quirks and a knack for pursuing the occasional red herring, but its 18 month investigation of Whitehall deserved a less grudging and skimpy response.

An election year is not the best period for setting reform in train. But the machinery of government division in the Civil Service Department could begin to plan for the next opportunity, when the climate and the Prime Minister of the day are set fair, to improve the mechanics of central government. They were busy in the aftermath of Fulton. Very little new thought seems to be available there at present as the "think tank" team discovered last year when they went seeking guidance of the best way to organize Whitehall's departments with an overseas interest. As Lord Bridges, Head of the Home Civil Service, wrote to Lord Normanbrook, Secretary of the Cabinet, in 1952 after a previous decade of sporadic attempts at improvement: "If those of us who have lived here and studied the Whitehall organization give up as hopeless all attempts to reform it from inside, then what hope is there of any reform in our time?"

SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN CHILE

The decision of the military leaders of Chile to lift the state of siege is a welcome sign that they are aware of the pressures for liberalization which exist both inside the country and abroad. The step falls very far short of a complete removal of all the restrictions that have been imposed since the military takeover in 1973. Political parties continue to be banned, for instance, and the trade unions can neither hold internal elections nor call strikes. Restrictions on the press remain in force, and even the nightly curfew is continuing. The effect is simply to move Chile to a less rigorous state of emergency than it has had for the past four and a half years. The decision creates a new legal framework in which the security forces will no longer have the right to hold people indefinitely without bringing them to trial, and fewer cases will come before military courts, much criticized by lawyers for their procedures. The President no longer has the power to banish people to remote parts of the country, or to deprive them of

nationality. Thus the changes are more than symbolic but it remains to be seen whether they will be accompanied by a significant liberalization in practice. President Pinochet and his colleagues have presented their decision as a demonstration of self-confidence. Certainly they have more or less wiped out such armed opposition as there was by the ruthless measures of the past few years: and after his overwhelming victory in the referendum in January, however suspect the results, President Pinochet could claim widespread support. But the referendum campaign also revealed pressure within Chile for a more liberal system, in addition to that from the outside world, particularly the United States.

The Chilean regime is in an extremely embarrassing position over murder in Washington in 1976 of Orlando Letelier, a leading Chilean exile who had been Foreign Minister under President Allende. The American authorities claim to have evidence that two men they believe to be linked to the case travelled to the United States on official

Chilean passports: and they have recently made a formal request to the Chileans to have the two men questioned in the presence of the American prosecutor handling the case. It is not certain that the decision to lift the state of siege is linked to this case. But there is no doubt that Chile needs to improve its image in the United States after the allegations that have been made. It also needs any support it can get in its dispute with Argentina over the islands at the southern tip of South America.

This may help to explain other signs of greater flexibility in the junta. Soon after the referendum the authorities mounted a drive against the Christian Democratic Party, traditionally the strongest in Chile, which had been active in campaigning against a vote for the regime. Twelve leading members of the party were banished to the north of the country. Then, surprisingly, the banishment was revoked at the beginning of this month, and the twelve Christian Democrats were allowed to return to their homes. Improvement still has a long way to go, but at least a start has been made.

The politics of race

From Professor H. J. Eysenck

Sir, In recent weeks the National Front have used my name and that of Professor A. Jensen in their propaganda, trying to suggest that our findings support their policies, and that we do so, too, as individuals. Both these suggestions are contrary to the facts, and both Professor Jensen and I are strongly opposed to any form of racialism including that advocated by the National Front. It is true that there seem to be national and racial differences in IQ; thus the Japanese, when tested with American tests, seem to score very significantly higher than do Americans or Europeans; similarly, Chinese in Hong Kong and Singapore score significantly more highly than do whites (of higher socioeconomic status) or Malays. These are facts which may or may not be important, and the question is difficult and complex; they do not permit anyone to declare the white races to be inferior to the Mongoloid races, and should not be taken as an endorsement of racism.

The essence of racism is the advocacy of certain methods of dealing with individuals, namely that they should be treated in terms of some general aspect of their group, rather than in terms of their own individual characteristics as distinct individuals. Thus to the racist all members of a given group are inferior to all members of another. The empirical work that Jensen and I have done shows that this is quite impossible to maintain any such position; there is a great deal of overlap between any racial or national groups that have ever been studied, and this overlap gives an empirical foundation to the proposition that each person must be judged and evaluated in terms of his own personality, intelligence, achievement, etc., rather than in terms of his colour or nationality, sex or race. Looked at from the rational point of view, therefore, the empirical studies of different races and national groups conclusively disprove the allegations of racism, and destroy their fundamental basis. This important research is not always referred to by those who unthinkingly call anyone racist who draws attention to factual differences between various groups.

I should perhaps end by saying that while empirical results give strong support to those who are opposed to racist doctrines and practices, these doctrines and practices must be condemned in any case on ethical and moral grounds. However, apparently it is possible for some people to dismiss these ethical considerations on the point that it is to be hoped that they will be more impressed by the factual demonstration that racism is nonsense. It is also to be hoped that the National Front will cease to quote Jensen and myself as giving support to their views, which in actual fact our findings show these views to have no rational basis whatsoever.

Yours sincerely,
H. J. EYSENCK,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park,
Denmark Hill, SE5.

Praying for peace

From Mrs Jane Ewart-Biggs

Sir, During the past weeks there have been disturbing signs of hatred and violence within your island, Northern Ireland. Your readers are kept informed daily of such tragedies. And so they should. But I would wish them equally to know of any emerging signs of hope; of any renewed enlightenment on Ulster's tragic scene. I am humbly giving this enlightenment by offering a focus for the deep sympathy felt by so many in this country towards the people of Northern Ireland. Supported by the other church leaders, he is holding an ecumenical service at the Cathedral of St Patrick's Day. This is to be the opening of a 30 day "call to prayer" for peace in Northern Ireland. The churches have, in this way, united to give a lead towards the path of reconciliation and peace. May their lead be followed by all men and women of goodwill on both sides of the Irish Sea.

Yours faithfully,
JANE EWART-BIGGS,
1 Savoy Hill, WC2.

The youngest headmaster

From Dr J. R. de S. Hone

Sir, Fisher of Repton could only qualify for consideration as the youngest headmaster in the field if he is restricted to the present century. Moreover, much will depend on the interpretation of Mr Pocock's definition (March 14) of "accredited public school membership of the House of Commons". Concurrence is regarded as definitive only in a limited sense in the twentieth century and was an even less valid criterion before 1900.

Samuel Butler of Shrewsbury was 24 on appointment in 1798, and Henry Moss was also 24 when he became head of the same school in 1866. H. M. Butler took over Harrow at 26 in 1860, and the great E. Abbott, on becoming head of the City of London School in 1865 (also at 26) was so youthful in appearance that he was often taken to be a junior member of his own staff.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. de S. HONEY,
26 Whitwell Acres,
High Shindcliffe,
Durham.
From Dr Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North (Conservative). Sir, Can state secondary schools rival the public schools for the youngest headmaster? I took up my first such headship at 30 and was, I believe, appointed at 29. Was and is this a record? Yours faithfully,
RHODES BOYSON,
House of Commons,
March 14.

Israel retaliation for PLO attack

From Mr E. M. Kolman

Sir, It is certainly true that past experience has shown military retaliation to be ineffective as a deterrent against terrorist actions; nor can there be any doubt about the fact that a political situation is not improved by it. It is a fact, however, that the position of the Israeli Government is the same as that of any other democratic country, in that it has to take account of public feelings when they are as strong and widespread as those of the Israeli population demanding some kind of counteraction in reply to the latest PLO raid.

In Israel, where the strength of feeling arises from a history of being helplessly exposed to persecution over many centuries—culminating in the Nazi extermination of one third of world Jewry—any government which ignored these emotions could find itself out of office very quickly.

Mr Begin's statement that "the days are past when it was possible to shed Jewish blood with impunity" shows that he is well aware of this situation.

Yours faithfully,
E. M. KOLMAN, Chairman,
Council for Current Affairs Research and Education,
25 Melcombe Street, NW1,
March 13.

From Mr A. M. Haymon Gorlov

Sir, Your editorial column today (March 13) demonstrates a strange sense of proportion on your part. I wish I had been shocked by it, because the sentiments both expressed and implied are seen too frequently for that.

In your second leader you spare a few words to condemn the criminals responsible for Saturday's murders in Israel and then offer your advice to Menachem Begin. Such advice is of course welcome, but in your columns, whatever one may think of its content, but where, Sir, is your sense of outrage at what has occurred; or you fear for the implications of such conduct not only in the Middle East but elsewhere? Neither is apparent.

This is surely a matter of common sense (or is it uncommon?) that Israel has lost 37 innocent people at the hand of madmen, while for the rest of the world there has been yet another act of violence to add to the many which are, with increasing frequency, affecting us all. Yet you indicate merely by a brief description your general disapproval of the actions of so-called "commandos" and proceed to give Mr Begin a short guide to appeasement and reconciliation.

Compare your first leader. A reasoned argument on the justifiable limits of Parliamentary privilege, it excludes the righteous indignation which you doubtless feel for fellow

journalists who have done no more than fulfil their function. It has spirit to it, and naturally so for here you are discussing the important right to freedom of expression. Sir, which right is more important: to speak or to be free? I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. M. HAYMON GORLOV,
15 Briary Close, NW2,
March 13.

From Mr Edward Hooper

Sir, Israel's Prime Minister Begin was an underground terrorist leader in 1947, while no better words of scoundrel than the current PLO leaders whom he so roundly condemns today. When his gang committed atrocities against both the Arabs and the British in occupied Palestine, the British Army did not strike back at Jewish settlements and refugee camps. Not even when all 254 inhabitants of the village of Deir Yassin were massacred by Irgun in 1947.

As Israel seeks to exact revenge for the tragedy of the weekend, other than by trying in a court of law those participants who are still alive, then she is guilty of state terrorism. This is a crime worse than the often futile and self-defeating terrorism of the dispossessed and disenfranchised and actually indirectly condones it.

Mr Begin has again led his nation another step down the ladder of Dante's Inferno.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD HOOPER, Liberal Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Sutton Coldfield,
31 Wyvern Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands,
March 15.

From Mrs Maurice Gardner

Sir, With reference to your balanced and sensible leading article of March 13, about the Palestinian attack on Israel and its implications regarding the peace talks.

I am a little surprised that you call it a "commando" raid and the Palestinians commandos. I feel that the many brave men who fought in Commando units in various parts of the world during the Second World War might feel that, whereas this raid was specifically against unarmed men, women and children and its purpose was to kill and create terror, their targets were usually military and committed whilst serving their country in a recognized theatre of war.

I think the name Palestinian terrorists would be more appropriate than commandos.

Yours faithfully,
SHEILA GARDNER,
Northgate,
3 Ringley Road,
Whitefield,
Manchester,
March 13.

Terrorism in Rhodesia

From Mr Ian Lloyd, MP for Havant and Waterloo (Conservative)

Sir, Whatever one's views on the situation in Rhodesia, it must be common sense that the violence which is an inescapable consequence of terrorism has certainly caused great misery to many people and institutions, including the Roman Catholic missions described in the despatch from your Salisbury Correspondent, Nicholas Ashford (March 14). Everyone regrets this but our ability to make objective judgments about the situation is not assisted by tendentious reporting. In the third paragraph of his despatch Mr Ashford states that Mission stations, schools and hospitals have been attacked and closed forcibly both by the guerrillas and the authorities. He did not state that mission stations, schools and hospitals had been "attacked by the guerrillas and closed forcibly by the authorities" which would imply that the guerrillas had been more accurate. The difference is not unimportant.

The saga of terror which he then describes is seriously marred by the repeated use of quotation marks when using the word terrorists, on no less than eight occasions. I think your readers are entitled to know how *The Times* distinguishes between a "terrorist" and a terrorist. Most of us have no difficulty in drawing our own distinctions, and these would be the same both in the present and in the past, and published by the so-called Catholic Commission for Justice believe that the consequences of

indiscriminate terror, whether produced by so-called freedom fighters operating over the Mozambique and Rhodesia borders or various factions of the Palestinian liberation movement, operating across the beaches of Israel, produce results which are wholly unacceptable in civilized societies and which totally destroy what little sympathy one may have for the supposedly political objectives of those who authorize such actions.

We do not need the fine discrimination in *The Times* reports on Rhodesia to help us distinguish between the actions of "terrorists" operating on behalf of the so-called Patriotic Front or "gangs of Africans" operating as the article implies, on behalf of the present Rhodesian Government. If Mr Ashford wishes us to conclude that those "gangs" are the Rhodesia forces he should say so and prove it.

The Catholic Commission for Justice in Rhodesia has in fact gone further than your correspondent in suggesting, in a hard published recently sent to all Members of Parliament, that the "gangs of Africans" are in fact the present Rhodesian armed forces and that the latter are deliberately perpetrating both terror and torture in defiance of the present regime. So unconvincing did I find the latter that I challenged the Commission, in a detailed refutation, to substantiate their arguments with facts. They have none and have not been able to provide them. It is up to your readers to draw the appropriate conclusion.

Yours faithfully,
IAN LLOYD,
House of Commons,

The Warwick Canaletto

From Mr Dennis Farr and Mr David Piper

Sir, We note from your report today that Birmingham and Oxford have each agreed to purchase the Canaletto, £275,000 for the two Warwick Castle Canaletto, although the Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum has stated he is only able to provide a 50 per cent grant towards the purchase of one of these paintings. It would be interesting to know whether central government is prepared to find another 50 per cent grant for the other painting. Neither of us has yet received a categorical statement of the Government's intentions despite repeated attempts since November last to ascertain exactly how we stood in this matter.

It must be understood that neither the City Museums and Art Gallery nor the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust have even £137,500, let alone £275,000 between now and May 11, the date on which the suspension of the export licences expires. We must assume that the Government is agreeing to provide, in effect, only one quarter of the sum needed to save both paintings, has tacitly decided to let one of them go to Mr Paul Mellon. Such a decision, which the Government has treated this issue, that the public has become confused as to its policy and we, who have to try to rescue works of art of national importance, hampered in performing our duty.

Ever since Mrs Shirley Williams announced in the House of Commons (October 26, 1977) that £1 million was to be made available to allow museums and galleries to buy additional works of art to

assist in the preservation of the national heritage, there was hope that three outstanding masterpieces might be saved. We now learn, by the backdoor, that this "heritage" money is to be distributed to the national museums and galleries despite professional advice to keep it intact as a contingency fund. Local authority and university museums, in a time of economic stringency, are being denied the opportunity of benefiting from the allocation to the full by the mismanagement of Government which seems incapable of getting its priorities properly established.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS FARR, Director,
City Museums and Art Gallery,
Birmingham.
DAVID PIPER, Director,
Ashmolean Museum,
Oxford.
March 14.

Jewish newspaper

From Mr F. Harris

Sir, Kindly permit me, as its founder and editor since its inception in December 1950, to amend the reference to the *Jewish Telegraph* by Mr William Frankel (report, February 23). The Manchester was dropped from its title soon after its foundation; although its head office is in the Manchester area, in fact it covers the North West. And like the *Jewish Gazette*, it also has a thriving edition in Leeds.

Yours faithfully,
F. HARRIS, Editor,
Jewish Telegraph,
11 Park Hill,
Manchester.

Departure from precedent

From Professor Glanville Williams, QC, FBA

Sir, In your comment on Davis v Johnson (March 11) you say that the five law lords were right to "kick off" Lord Denning for maintaining in the Court of Appeal that that court is not bound by its previous decisions.

Several questions are involved in this. It can be strongly maintained that whether the Court of Appeal binds itself is not a matter for determination by the House of Lords. Suppose that in A v B the Court of Appeal decides for A. Subsequently, in the precisely similar case of C v D, the same court changes its mind and holds for D. C v D goes on appeal to the House of Lords, which of course is not bound by any of the pronouncements of the Court of Appeal. Their lordships uphold the decision in favour of D, but add that the Court of Appeal was wrong in arriving at this very decision, since it should have followed the precedent of A v B (now admitted to be erroneous, and given a wrong judgment for C). On its face the "kicking off" would look pretty silly. Suppose that the Court of Appeal had decided for C; how do we know that D would have had sufficient funds to take the case to the Lords?

Notwithstanding the remarks made by Lord Diplock in Davis v Johnson, it would seem that the Court of Appeal is still as free as it ever was to decide that henceforth it will not be bound by its own precedents, or to establish some new circumstance in which it will not be bound. It may be said that Lord Diplock's remarks were obiter, since they were unnecessary for the decision of the matter in the House of Lords. The function of their lordships was only to decide the issue before the parties. But the more satisfactory way of putting the matter is this: our doctrine of precedent cannot itself be supported by precedent, because that would be a "bootstrap" argument. It is simply a matter of the practice of the courts and it is for each court to determine its own practice. Courts of first instance, for example, have never regarded themselves as bound by their own precedents. The practice of appellate courts may, for good reasons, be changed from time to time as the House of Lords changed its practice in 1966.

The Court of Appeal has now developed a perfectly satisfactory way of reviewing its own decisions, within the limits at present allowed by practice, namely by convening a special court of five members, as it did in Davis v Johnson. This will often save the parties the appeal to the Lords.

What needs to be considered is whether we need the double appeal. It is a serious hazard for private litigants who are not in receipt of full legal aid. So far from adding certainty to the law, the House of Lords in its judicial capacity creates at least as much uncertainty as it resolves, because their lordships frequently deliver separate opinions differing from each other on so many matters that no clear pronouncement as to the law emerges. It would be an excellent reform if the appellate committee of the House of Lords were wound up by transferring its members to the Court of Appeal, where they could perform a service in helping out, and if members were encouraged so far as possible to combine in their judgments.

Yours faithfully,
GLANVILLE WILLIAMS,
Jesus College,
Cambridge,
March 14.

Rate support for arts

From the Secretary of the Museums Association

Sir, As one of those attending the National Heritage conference last weekend I was pleased to read the letter from Mr James Bishop (March 14) drawing attention to the conference resolution calling for mandatory rate support for the arts.

The Museums Association has urged central government to enact legislation which would lay an obligation on county councils, in consultation with district councils, to ensure an adequate provision of museum and gallery facilities in their areas. The Association, through the committee which prepared the Wright Report: *Provincial Museums and Galleries* (HMSO 1973) favoured such an obligation and a minimum rate would give, as Bishop says, guaranteed support for the proper maintenance and development of the heritage contained in our museums and galleries whose value for tourism and for the communities they serve has not been recognized. The political parties are discussing a minimum rate; it is time the proposal became a reality.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDA CAPTICK,
Secretary,
The Museums Association,
87 Chichester Street, W1,
March 14.

Yesterday's sounds

From Mrs Cogan

Sir, As I no longer hear the clomp, clomp of the horse with the milk cart in the early morning, nor the clack of the milk can tids, as the milkman delivers our milk.

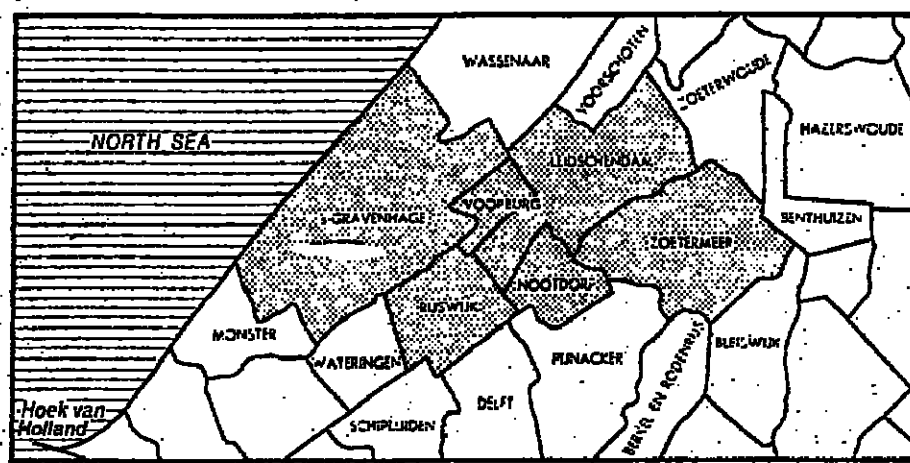
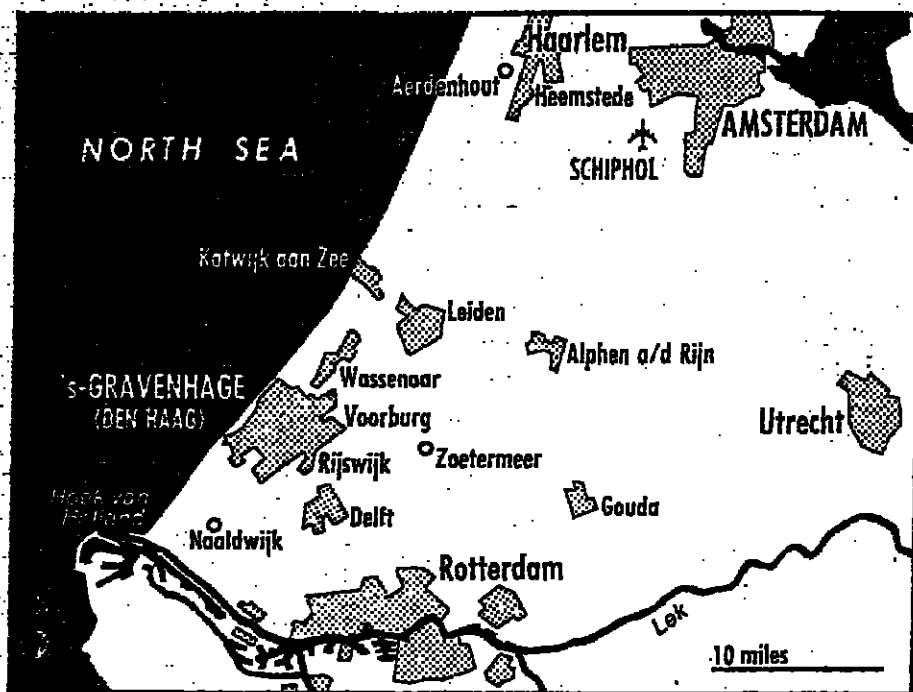
Yours sincerely,
JEAN B. COGGAN,
Lambeth Palace, SE1,
March 13.

From Mr J. A. Harris
Sir, Bus conductors' punches never did go ding. They went PING; the bell went ding.
Yours faithfully,
J. A. HARRIS,
142 Wades Hill, N21.

From Mr Peter Jackson
Sir, Bus conductors' punches didn't go ding. They went ding.
Yours faithfully,
PETER JACKSON,
61 Spring Park Road,
Shelley,
Croydon, Surrey.

HEART OF RANDSTAD

Horseshoe that is lucky for Holland



The Randstad.

of the villages have more than tripled in population and are themselves starting to grow towards each other. An added difficulty is that because of the still existing housing shortage in the Netherlands, the number of dwellings built each year is a weighty political issue, so that the Minister for Housing and Physical Planning finds himself in a far more uncomfortable position in Parliament if he has built fewer houses than if the green heart has been built up further.

Government policy is aimed at preserving the large urban agglomerations as independent elements with green buffer zones between them, and to deflect expansion of the Randstad chiefly to the north and south of the two curves in the horseshoe. There are those of the opinion that the independence of the large urban agglomerations is not a viable proposition because each needs its own set of amenities.

They feel that by developing the Randstad—including where necessary parts of the green land—as an entity this would enhance its position as a European metropolis. This approach does not seem to have found much favour, however, particularly at a time when the Dutch are rediscovering the joys of a quiet country life, even if the maddening crowd is moving in to disrupt it.

While the Government can influence the building of houses by granting subsidies, this is limited by political considerations. A more effective approach is through economic controls, for instance through coaxing jobs away from the Randstad.

With the advent of mechanized industry in the nineteenth century, Holland became the economic mainstay of The Netherlands, as the principal source of energy at the time; coal could easily be shipped in through the ports of Amsterdam and Rotterdam. The Randstad became a wealthy, industrialized area and today congestion in it is not limited to urbanization, traffic and people, but includes the economy.

To encourage industries to move out and into areas that need economic stimulation, the Government is introducing a system of incentives, mainly in the form of investment premiums that have run into trouble in Brussels because of EEC regulations on regional development and have therefore not yet been implemented.

Here, again, there are complications. In recent years, for instance, unemployment in the big urban agglomerations of the Randstad has taken on troubling proportions. In The Hague, the problem has to a certain extent been caused by the Government itself through plans to relocate certain government services to other parts of the country.

Part of the problem of containing the unbridled growth—and of general "livability"—in the Randstad has to do with the problems of coordination between the different levels of national, provincial and local administrations involved. An example of the type of solution that has emerged is the region of The Hague.

In it, the municipalities of The Hague, Leidschendam, Noordorp, Voorburg, Rijswijk and Zoetermeer have joined forces, albeit on a voluntary basis, for a joint approach to the problems of housing and urbanization, public transport and traffic, recreation and the environment, economic development, education and health.

An inconvenience is the voluntary basis of the arrangement which caused the project to get off to a slow start. Often conflicting interests are at stake, as in the case of the new town of Zoetermeer, which was developed to cope with the population overflow from The Hague, which has practically no more building sites. Zoetermeer now refuses to abide by its role of dormitory for The Hague and wants to create jobs, probably at the expense of The Hague.

North Holland and South Holland are two of the 11 provinces that constitute The Netherlands. There are plans to restructure the country administratively by creating more compact provinces, perhaps as many as 24. National government has become too complex to deal with the day-to-day problems of communities, while the scope of these problems has surpassed that of local government, in an era where people live in one community, work in another, shop in a third, and so on.

Unrest at plans for more provinces

by Henk Aben

In principle local and provincial government in The Netherlands is based on a law dating from 1850. Times have changed and development of transport, housing, pollution and recreation demand new techniques of government.

Cooperation between municipalities started in 1950 and there have been more than 1,500 agreements between municipalities in various areas including sports facilities and public health. By law the regional authority of the Rijnmond district has been created. Rotterdam and its surrounding 22 smaller municipalities have their own county council with power as far as protection of the environment is concerned.

From its beginning the Rijnmond district has faced a variety of problems, cause of a lack of consultation and influence by the people concerned at the time Parliament was discussing the law. This example has taught other areas in the overcrowded western part of Holland, known as Randstad, to follow other ways.

After five years of mere consultative arrangements six local authorities of The Hague urban area created a voluntary regional authority in 1973: the Gewest 's-Gravenhage. The Hague regional authority, although a private initiative, the regional authority is a public body in charge of co-ordinating and integrating policies on planning, protection of the environment, traffic and public transport, economic development, housing, sports, recreation and public health.

Participating are The Hague (480,000 inhabitants), Leidschendam (29,000), Voorburg (44,000), Rijswijk (53,000), the rapidly growing new town of Zoetermeer (42,000) and the rural Noordwijk (6,000).

The constitutional set-up of local authorities: a council, indirectly elected by local councillors, an executive of three elected members to serve for four years, and its president, appointed by the Crown for a six-year term.

Apart from its regional machinery The Hague district has various advisory committees, consisting of some members of the six municipalities including a committee of burgomasters, chaired by the regional president, Mr Chris Buijten-dijk, former director of the wage control office of the national Government and a prophet of federalism.

Although it was a voluntary decision made by the six local councils, arguments are well known in the splendid Berlage House, seat of the regional executive in the heart of The Hague. In many ways the regional authority has the same difficulties over cooperation as the European Community.

Mr Buijten-dijk is aware of the unrest caused by the various drafts for reform of local and regional government in The Netherlands. There has been a suggestion of creating 44 districts instead of the 11 historical provinces. Municipalities protested.

There was the idea of 24 provinces. The existing provinces protested, although there is a common opinion that the creation of more provinces is necessary if only because of the new *politics* in the former Zuider Zee. There is also a move towards decentralization to outgrowth centralization since the First World War. The national civil servants protested.

According to Mr Buijten-dijk, uncertainty and mistrust have been met with optimism, apart from the fact that local councillors, confronted with the reality of handing power to a regional authority, are hesitating. For psychological reasons it is difficult to give up influence and power.

Still, the regional president said: "Considering this handicap, the success of the regional authority is a miracle: a common map of recreation facilities, a regional traffic plan, common negotiations with

continued on next page.

TOR EYLES

northern curve of the shoe starts near the coast, and travels up through the coastal area, and then curves to the south, following the coastline, until The Hague is reached, passing the city on the way. At The Hague the southern curve bends to the east, through Delft and Rotterdam, to reach its final destination at Dordrecht.

carried on road, the name Holland was used to designate a part of the country. The Netherlands, it is in fact, The Netherlands. The Dutch are called Dutch because of their language, and not because of their nationality.

Dr Eyles, who is a geographer, said that the name "Hollander" is a misnomer, and that the name "Dutch" is a misnomer, and that the name "Netherlands" is a misnomer.

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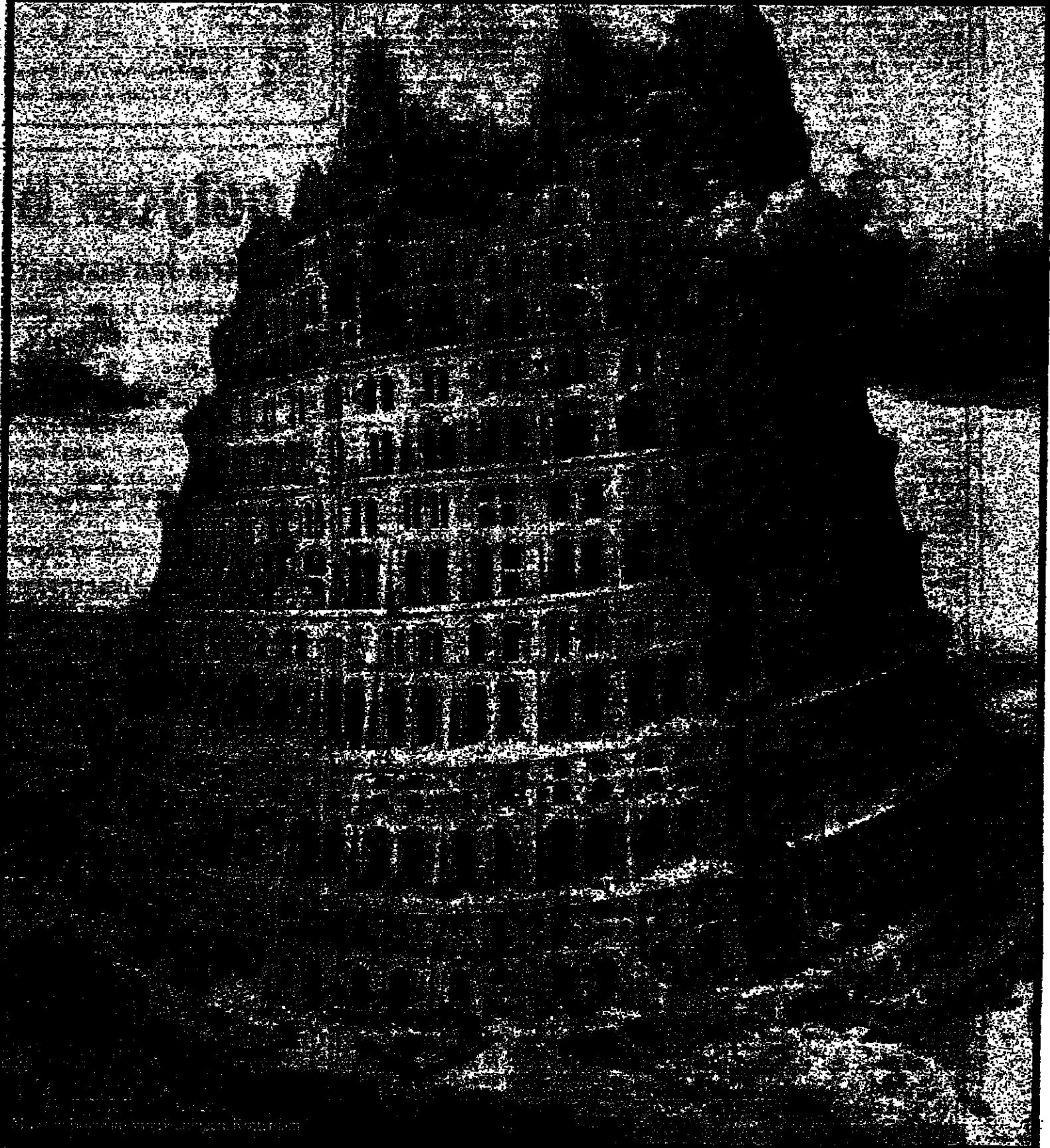
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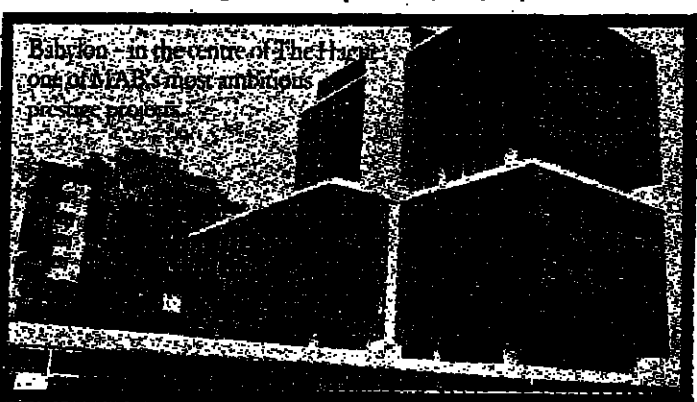
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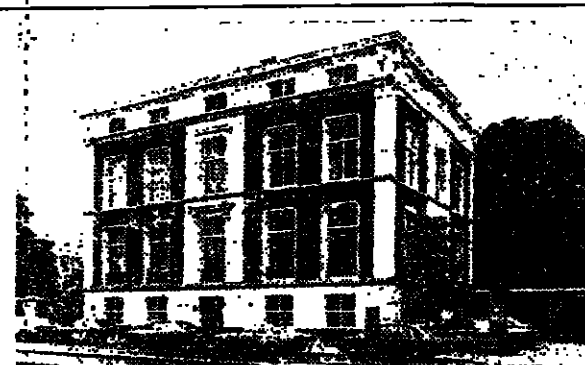
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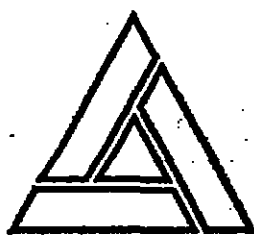
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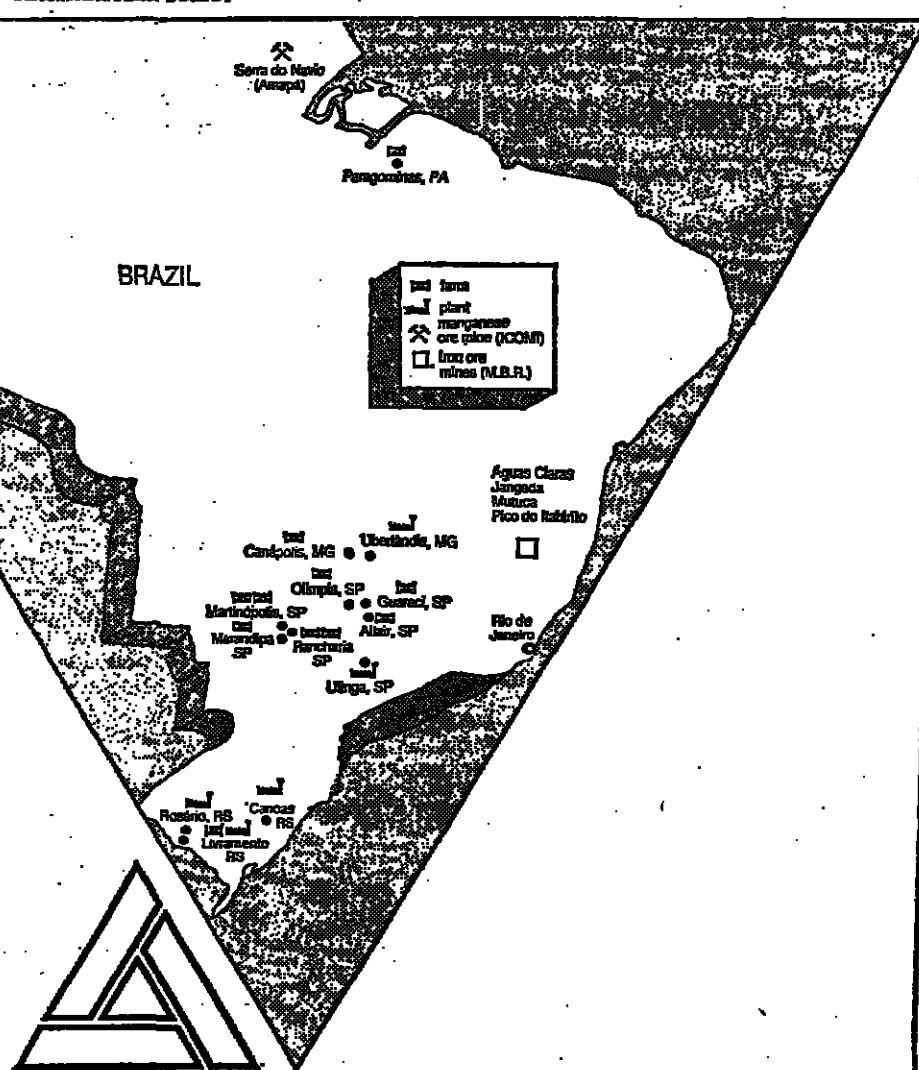


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Cultural triangle draws the tourists

by Pieter Zwart

Some 607,528 overnight stays in hotels in The Hague were recorded last year. And tourists who stayed for more than a day spent about 60m guilders in the city, which is the seat of the Dutch Government. Delft estimated that last year it had one million visitors, and for Leiden day-trippers to the bulb fields near by and the city were important since there is a shortage of hotels in that city.

These three cities are within easy reach of one another. The Hague is only a 10-minute tram-ride from Delft and a 10-minute train journey from Leiden. As Ludovico Guicciardini, a Florentine traveller, noted in 1566: "Den Haghe is located by the sea, a good mile from Delft, from Leiden two". And the same remains true today.

The Hague is proud of being one of the greenest cities, if not the greenest city, in The Netherlands. There are 20 sq metres of parkland a head—compared with Amsterdam's 12, and Rotterdam's 16. Some of the dunes, woodlands and meadows still harbour wildlife—and the variety of birds from black-headed gulls to long-eared owls fill the 12 Hague bird sanctuaries. At the end of April when the city celebrates the Queen's birthday there are hundreds of specially-made geranium pyramids—red, pink and lilac—which have been rented for two years or more in the municipal parks department.

In 1957 the authorities pioneered a garden for the blind—the Louis Braille Garden—with specially scented and smooth-to-touch plants. To warn the blind of changes in the park, flower beds have raised edges, and all crossings and corners are paved with cobble



The Knights' Hall in the Binnenhof, seat of The Netherlands Parliament.

stones, or coarse gravel. In July there is a flowershow devoted to roses.

The Hague, for visitor and resident alike, is a cultural centre. Halls such as the Prins Willem Alexander Hall in The Netherlands

Congress Centre are consistently packed when The Hague Philharmonic, or any other of the world's great orchestras, play. Here Strauss, Reger, Toscanini, Arrau, Rubinstein, and Oistrach among others, have been cheered. The Hague Philharmonic nowadays includes modern as well as classical works in its programmes. At the Koninklijke Schouwburg (the Royal Theatre) plays by Ionesco, Pinter, Brecht, Frisch and Shakespeare have been performed by the Haagse Comedie.

More experimental plays are acted by younger actors in a converted church in the town centre, the Haagse Ontmoetingscentrum (the Theatrehuis), or in the Theaterkruis, or in the Diligentia, a small hall in the centre of town, is used for piano recitals and satirical cabaret.

The Hague has many fine museums

The Netherlands Opera has a home in former Circus Theatre at Scheveningen, now converted into a modern opera house. The Nederlandse Dans Theater, a ballet company specialising in new forms of dance—is subsidised by the city and appears there often.

For sightseers, Madurodam, billed as "the smallest town in the world", is the chief attraction when visiting The Hague. More than 24 million visitors have seen this 1:100 scale town since it was opened in 1952. Here during the season (from March to October) is a miniature Dutch town, with its roads, churches, schools, theatres and factories; there are medieval streets and modern architecture to a scale of 1:25. The barrel organ and the brass band play and at night some 45,000 lights illuminate it.

The royal tour shows visitors The Hague's many palaces, including the thirteenth century Ridderzaal (Knights' Hall) where the Counts of Holland used to entertain. The Hague has many museums, the most popular of which is one of the most popular museums in Holland, includes a seventeenth-century collection of masters including 17 Rembrandts, 13 Jan Steens, three Vermeers and five portraits by Frans Hals. The Hague Municipal Museum (the Gemeentemuseum) houses the largest

collection of Mondrian in the world. The Peace Palace where the International Court of Justice sits, was built between 1907 and 1913, and has contributions from many countries.

Delft, renowned for its Delft blue ceramics, is a town on a much smaller scale than Amsterdam, but best seen, like Amsterdam, from the narrow canals with their humped-back bridges which give the town its medieval character.

A roundabout, or round trip by boat, costs five guilders for each adult, and is limited to the spring-summer season. The cobbled streets adjoining the canals have names such as Oude Langendijk (Old Long Dike), Vrouwenrecht (Women's Rights), Wijnhaven (Wine Harbour) and Boterbrug (Butter Bridge). Every Thursday there is a general market in the Market Square, overlooked by the New Church (where the House of Orange are buried), and the town hall; there is also a flower market along the Hippolytusbuurt.

The Prinsenhof (The Princes' Court) is now used for an annual antique dealers' fair which takes place in October and November when dealers assemble to sell fine paintings and clocks, chairs and tables. For the rest of the year this former convent is used as a museum for silver, tapestries, ceramics and paintings. Once it was the home of William the Silent, and the bullet holes in the wall still record where he was assassinated by Balthasar Gerards in 1584. In the seventeenth century the building was used as a drapers' exchange, and during the eighteenth century for the convocation of several synods, and also as a concert hall. After being used as a military barracks, it fell into decay in the nineteenth century before being restored in the 1880s and the 1930s.

Though visitors cannot see the whole process of making Delft blue ware at De Oude Porcelijnse Fles factory, they are allowed to see the painters tracing their designs of flowers and birds and scenes on the ceramics before they are fired. So popular is Delft blue ware that a special postage stamp is being devoted to it this year, though it is nowadays manufactured in several factories not in Delft. De Oude Porcelijnse Fles (the old porcelain bottle) is the only factory where everything is done by hand.

Unrest at plans for more provinces

continued from previous page
voluntary and small one. In the Heart of Randstad there are many relations with the ancient but highly industrialised city of Delft, once seat of the Princes of Orange, and the city of Leiden, famous for its cheese and university and once a meeting place of the Pilgrim Fathers. South of the Hague the concentration of greenhouses and export of fruit, vegetables, and flowers to Britain, north of The Hague and Leiden the numerous ballfields.

With all these regions there are frequent contacts. As Mr. Buijsdijk said: "Pollution did not stop at each other's borders. Influence of housing and industry is going far beyond the region."

The Hague regional authority is an experiment, a

Formally speaking the national law for local and provincial government is out of date. Municipalities, however, are helping themselves, making mistakes, having their doubts about their own decision to coordinate themselves. The Hague regional authority is nevertheless a useful fruit of common sense, the six local authorities being convinced of the truth of the old Latin and Dutch expression:

"Strength will grow out of small things if there is a common will". Or as Burgomaster Schols of The Hague said: "We are living so close to each other that we have to do together what we can do together."

Taxis are among Europe's most expensive

The same does not apply to taxis. Holland's taxis are among the most expensive in Europe, and the refusal of local or national authorities to treat them as public transport has resulted in the bankruptcy of some of the better taxi and car hire firms.

The public transport system in and around The Hague, run by various tram and bus companies, provides a reasonably efficient service. Within the city and towns it is highly efficient, and happily reduces the need to take private cars into the city centre. Taking a private car into either The Hague, Leiden or Delft is a driver's nightmare, since it is a choice between camelside parking, with all the risk involved, or seeking one of the sparse official car parks and walking a considerable distance to one's destination.

The opening of the new Zoetermeer "splitter" railway line has done much to relieve this congestion. The Zoetermeer township of Zoetermeer was hardly accessible at all by public transport, and those who lived there had little alternative but to use their own cars. Now they can park at Zoetermeer station and take the train right into the town centre.

For those who want to venture farther afield, there are also plenty of facilities for commuters with the train. The six local authorities, those at Schiphol, beyond Leiden, and at Zeehaven, Rotterdam, KLM's convenient and frequent bus

Public transport is efficient but subsidized

by Sue Masterman

Europe's busiest railway line connects The Hague with Leiden and Delft. The level crossings which intersect this line, carrying the heavy road traffic from the commuter traffic from the Randstad towns to the city offices, open and close more frequently than on any other line in Europe. Day and night, passenger and goods traffic emanates mainly from Amsterdam, with destinations to all points south, thunder down the rails.

A local service, a commuter train from Leiden to Rotterdam four times an hour, keeps the stream of commuters flowing. International trains, including the boat train for the Hook of Holland-Harwich ferry, many trans-European express, and an hourly express train connection with Antwerp and Brussels, stop in The Hague on the line connecting the three Heart of Randstad towns. Others start from the terminal at The Hague's new central station where much of the city's modern modern communications are being coordinated.

Another main artery is the waterways network connecting the three, centred on De Vliet canal, long whose green banks the willows sweep low into the water, and where the lawns of what were once the summer residences of royalty stretch down to the water's edge. The Romans built the first canals in Delft, where the waterways are still used for tourist traffic, but not by the flat-bottomed boats which used to bring the fruit, vegetables and flowers into the still flourishing Thursday market. Leiden, too, has a picturesque waterway network of canals which is used somewhat more than that in Delft, but the canals in The Hague's city centre have mostly long been filled up and now carry the intricate network of trams and buses.

Public transport is, and will probably remain, a controversial affair in The Netherlands. Generally, there are those who firmly believe that it should be a public service, and thus available at a minimum cost or entirely free. There are others who think it should be self-supporting. At present the efficient system of public transport which a region like Randstad needs can be kept going only with the aid of high local and national subsidies.

The Dutch, well that their economic stance depends on it, with other countries also taking advantage in relation to radio and television communications. The Hague and a number of central systems, which whole towns receive two Dutch television programmes, three three West German since recently, a new British stations. As a television development further, it is that these systems will provide a wide selection of programme choice, but at the same time there is one television programme available in a language which a visitor stands.

Road connections out of the Heart of Randstad have also proved radically. The four-lane motorway, which has been opened between Amsterdam. Other arteries in the area are easily accessible. As in countries, rush-hour is unpredictable, a minor accident can bring the system to a halt. The motorways are in case of trouble, it is near at hand. Every metre along the motorway has a signpost, talking through which, the Holland's Automobile Association, can be reached.

The Randstad congestion is easy to reach, and leave. The broad canals, a conglomerate of an area as large as a small country, requires a concept of co-ordination. The inter-communications are complex, a communications system to be complex to serve more than one purpose. Room for improvement is always present, in present-day Europe, and Randstad's communications are good.

More a holiday than a mere journey

From Rotterdam and Amsterdam, Scandinavian ferries ply their way north. Such a trip is often more of a miniature holiday than a mere journey.

Telephone communications with The Netherlands are no source of trouble. The country has one of the most up-to-date systems, and direct dialling throughout the world is nothing new. In recent years the system has been further improved, so there is very little delay on automatic calls even at peak periods. Radio Scheveningen is well-known as one of the most efficient communication points for contact with worldwide shipping.



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Big business gravitates to seat of government

Robert Schull

Added the Great Hall, or Knights' Hall, as it is now known, where since 1504, on the third Tuesday of September, the Sovereign reads the speech from the Throne at the start of the new parliamentary year and the members of the First and Second Chambers of the States-General of The Netherlands (the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament).

Thus the Counts of Holland literally laid the cornerstone of the seat of government in The Netherlands. The Knights' Hall (part of which is original) now stands in a large building, the Binnenhof, headed in by buildings that added on or renovated over the centuries, strikingly reflecting various periods in the country's architectural history. The two chambers of Parliament are housed in the powerful building that at present houses the Foreign Office of the Prime Minister.

Walk through centre recalls past

By leaving Haarlem to settle in their Hague castle, the Counts of Holland also started the town's development. As one walks through the old centre it is, even now, not difficult to imagine how a multitude of retainers, tradesmen and artisans settled around the new court.

In this sense, The Hague has changed little since today, where most of its activities still stem from the fact that it is the seat of government. While the town has little industry, banking, insurance and in particular the big oil companies, with Royal Dutch/Shell leading the way, sought the vicinity of the governmental decision-takers.

Interestingly enough, the presence of the oil companies has led to the development of an important source of invisible exports, as The Hague has become one of the world centres of knowledge in petro-chemical engineering.

The Hague has also managed to attract its share of international organizations. Best known is the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, which is housed in the Peace Palace built with a gift from Andrew Carnegie.

Relocation plans are not welcomed

The national Government remains the largest employer in The Hague, together with banking, insurance and trade accounts for 75 per cent of total employment. It is therefore hardly surprising that the municipal authorities are taking a dim view of government plans to relocate a number of its employees to parts of the country with a chronic unemployment problem. The Government recently declared its intention to go ahead with plans to move the 16,000 persons employed by the Post Office

The Hague cosmopolitan, central and abounding in know-how

Greater The Hague—in Dutch *Groot-Hag*—is one of the world's greenest, most progress-minded communities. Nestled in the Rhine Delta, bordering on the North Sea, the Hague conurbation is so close to the coast of Great Britain that the hurried and the busy can come and go within a day.

Three roll-on and roll-offs depart from The Hague/Scheveningen six days each week. A variety of ships and ferries from Rotterdam and Hoek van Holland—only half an hour by car from The Hague—sail twice a day.

Almost every half hour each day, an airplane takes off from one of our neighbouring two airports for Heathrow, Gatwick and other British cities. Flights to London take only 45 minutes. Back in history when our nations fought their economic wars the proximity was not too great an advantage. But we did not always fight. Our princes and princesses, our sailors and merchants intermarried and lived happily ever after, on both sides of the sea.

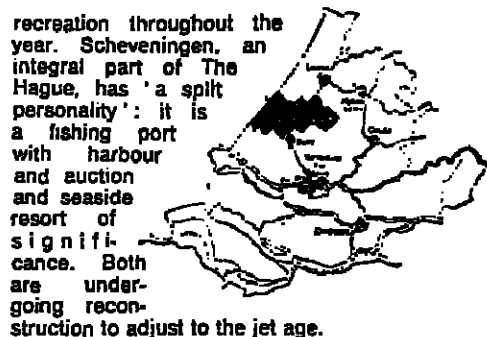
Centuries before that, Welsh and Irish settlers conducted a flourishing trade from our region, as evidenced by hatchets and flints still being unearthed.

Our city, the historical Royal Residence and seat of Government since 1249, does not welcome heavy industry. Dark chimneys would clash with the numerous national landmarks. The Hague continues to strive to a high quality of life and to environmental harmony. But light and clean industries enjoy easily accessible zones, framed with generous greenery.

The Hague of the seventies offers 1,001 advantages for world wide business development. The availability of multi-lingual technical as well as administrative staff, excellent communication facilities and cooperative government agencies, have brought here universally renowned engineering, marketing and finance companies.

And The Hague after work...

16 parks and sandy beaches and dunes of Kijkduin, Wassenaar and Scheveningen provide



recreation throughout the year. Scheveningen, an integral part of The Hague, has a split personality: it is a fishing port with a harbour and auction and seaside resort of significance. Both are undergoing reconstruction to adjust to the jet age.

Scheveningen Pier, the longest in Europe, studded with cafes and boutiques, overlooking the promenade and dunes—attracts a million visitors in summer, and scores of strollers who love the fierce North Sea waves in winter.

International schools with their own curriculums, houses of worship of all denominations, social clubs for young and old, high quality subsidized concerts and opera, as well as extensive sports facilities are geared to the needs of both natives and foreigners.

FIGURES WHICH SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Greater Hague inhabitants	658,143
working population	254,028
unemployed in services including government administration	208,141
general stability in labour relations	2 days strike in 1977
office space availability (per 100,000)	
older buildings	37,975 sq.m.
new buildings	6,915 sq.m.
industrial premises	10 hectares, 10 sq.km.
amenities: greenery	30 sq.m. per capita
tennis courts with several courts	12 sq.m. per capita
swimming pools under cover	14 sq.m. per capita
swimming pools (free-pond)	8 sq.m. per capita
beaches and dunes	588 hectares
sports fields	194 hectares

Fishing port looks to future as resort

Scheveningen—it is said—was only the Dutch can call a beach town. Once it was originally a fishing village, which came to a fashionable sea resort in the nineteenth century.

There are still cottages nestled the harbour, and in addition, white-headed and shawl-women but the latter are

today's Scheveningen is doing itself as a year-round resort which holiday-makers or weekenders can whatever the weather.

Grand Hotel and Hotel de la Pêche are the two main hotels. The Kurhaus, which is like a giant's hand, is being

redeveloped as a modern building, now listed monument, is being redeveloped to suit the needs and tastes of the twentieth-century tourist. And modern technology has been

applied to the harbour, roll-off terminal for the Norfolk line. The past few years the London Fleet has been

the result of the EEC fishing for herring in the North Sea and a

in quotas for fish, such as to prevent over-fishing.

owners of some 13 and 12 cutters have compensated by the

expensive pilotage charges, such as those necessary in Rotterdam, were thus avoided.

By 1980, Scheveningen hopes to attract more than four million tourists. The main attraction will be the new casino—only the third, and probably the last, in Holland—which will open in 1979. Here gamblers will be able to play roulette, blackjack and baccarat for maximum winnings of 12mfl.

The cost of restoring the Kurhaus to its former glory has been estimated at 103mfl. This high price results in part from having to use concrete and other materials resistant to wind and sea-salt. The southern part of the Kurhaus (the former Grand Hotel) is being redeveloped as flats which will sell for between 150,000fl and 300,000fl.

The roll-on, roll-off traffic is quicker than shipping containers, and more and more shippers are using it. In 1969 the Norfolk line recorded some 10,000 movements a year. In 1977 it recorded 45,000 movements a year. The Norfolk line also has a limited passenger capacity: it carries about

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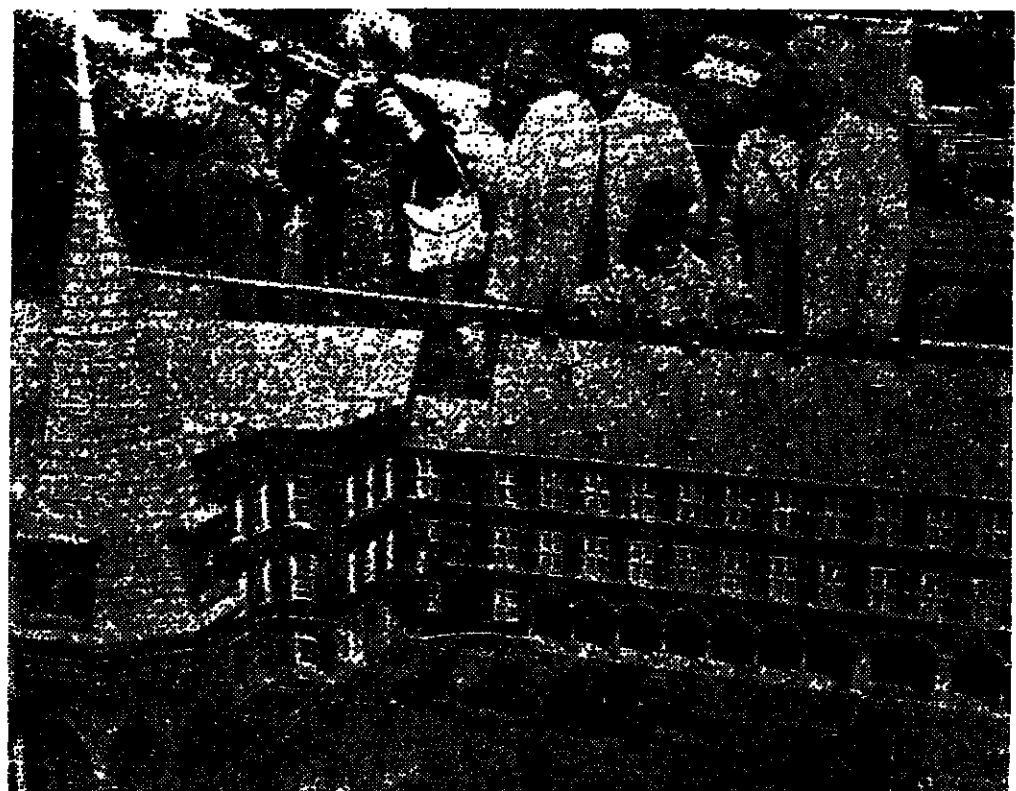
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The Inner Court in The Hague, centre of government

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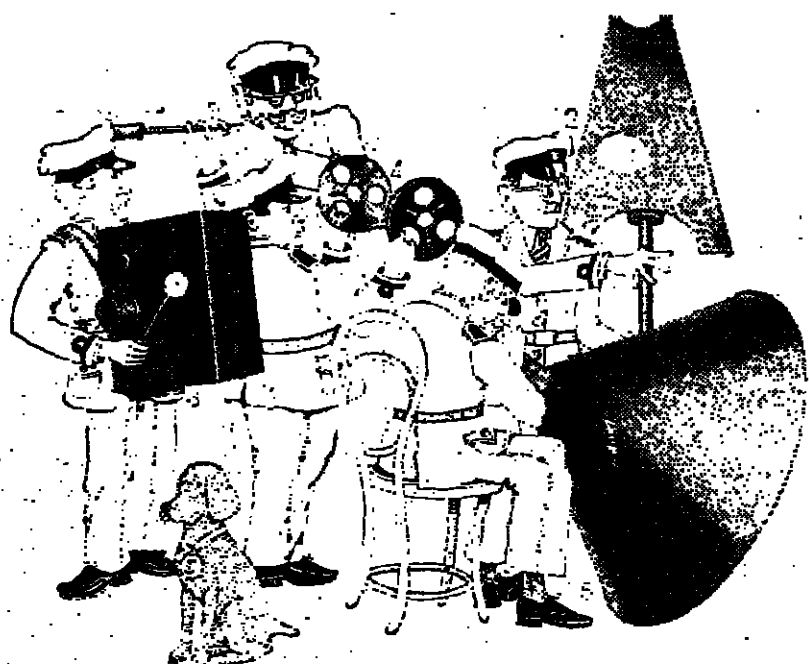
Village development for those who prefer quiet

An imaginative development in Scheveningen at the small village of Kijkduin, which has only 900 inhabitants, caters for those who prefer the quieter sort of holiday. Set in the dunes are two hotels (one opened in 1976; the other still being completed) which offer accommodation consisting of apartments with kitchenettes and bathrooms, from 100fl to 1450 fl a day. The architects of this complex, built by Bouwbedrijf B. Meyer (m. Zoos, are Zandstra (for the hotel) and Lucas (for the shopping centre).

The Atlantic Hotel, which has 60 double-room apartments and 60 single-room apartments, has 400 beds. Those who come for a peaceful family holiday will find a nature reserve (near the hotel) which has only bridle, bicycle and walking paths. The hotel has an indoor swimming pool, saunas, solarium, and a fitness club. There are 25 outdoor tennis courts near by.

Scheveningen harbour has a yachting marina and although the traditional fishing trade is in recession, sport fishing has developed. The town should be considered enough to attract the millions of tourists it hopes to in the 1980s.

P.Z.



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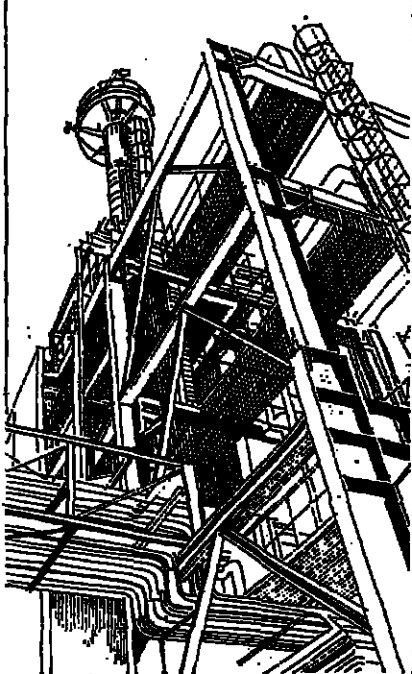
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'Gateway' seeks more British investment

by Nick Cole

Surrounded by vast areas of horticultural and farm land, interspersed with factory parks which use natural gas as their energy source, The Hague understands considerably itself a city of "clean" industries. Two thirds of the 198,000 working population work in the services sector, including central and local government, which collectively employ 55,000 Haguensers.

According to latest figures, industry provides a living for some 34,500, of whom 15,000 work in building materials and construction; a further 7,500 are employed in metal processing, including engineering, structural fabrication and electronics. Graphics, including book-printing, comprise one of the area's most significant industrial activities, and has a labour force of about 6,000.

Also of notable importance are food processing and allied products, with a combined workforce of 3,700. Fishing and intensive market gardening in The Hague/Scheveningen occupy an estimated 1,500 people.

Twenty per cent of Hague manufacturers employ 10 people or fewer. The remaining 80 per cent have payrolls of up to 1,000 or more, and their products range from processed rubber to non-essentials, including tobacco and beverages.

The Hague also accommodates the European headquarters of many of the world's most important oil and engineering firms. Tourism contributes 10mfl to the region—2 per cent of its gross product of 500,000mfl.

Exports from the services sector, including commerce, banking and insurance, account for more than 50 per cent of exports from The Hague. Roll-on, roll-off container ships carry about a million tons to and from Scheveningen each year.

The growing importance of The Hague as an administrative centre has not eclipsed its industrial progress, which has nevertheless, on the city's own admission, been limited, partly as a result of land famine.

The main concentration is at Plaspoelwolder, a 250-acre zone known as The Hague-Rijkswijk, a park which has been built on land owned by Rijkswijk but

developed by harnessing the financial and planning resources of both places. British firms operating from Plaspoelwolder through subsidiary or joint-venture concerns include Rentokil, Addressograph - Multigraph, Vendor and the Inter-national Paint Company.

British companies with recent acquisitions in The Hague include Austin Reed, Ramers (Jewellers), Etam, Wimpey, Dixons, and Miller. Rayner & Hayson, clothing suppliers, British Rail's shipping division is promoting a sea-link export drive to attract further investment on its Harwich-Hook service.

Mr Chris Buijendijk, the chief executive of the new Hague authority, makes no secret of the city's desire to attract further investment from Britain. The Randstad is, he says, "the gateway to Europe, an ideal jumping-off point for the European Community".

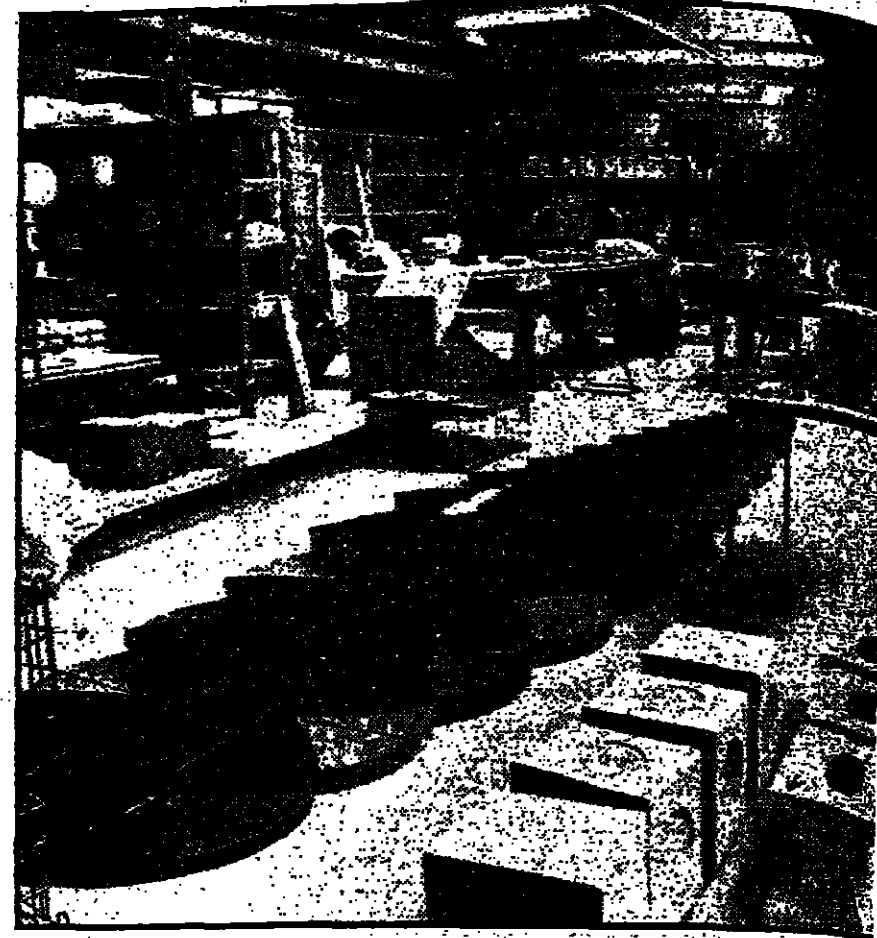
As it emphasises the competitiveness and advantages of the region, the Dutch ministry of education is moving its headquarters from 60 separate buildings in The Hague to one self-contained unit at the new municipality of Zoetermeer. Ground rents there are relatively lower and are one reason why 800 firms have set up businesses there.

At Zoetermeer, which is Zoetermeer's 133-acre land, priority is being given to "clean" industries, those creating job opportunities, and to institutional and private investment societies. The main attractions for foreign firms include the almost unrestricted foreign exchange, and the range of national and local subsidies covering labour and building investment costs.

Additionally, companies are offered tax "holidays" and losses incurred abroad by firms with holding company headquarters in The Netherlands can be set off against profits.

An estimated 500 British firms are operating in Holland. About 7,000 foreign nationals are employed in the most efficient manner possible. The most efficient manner possible, in the city's own admission, has been limited, partly as a result of land famine.

The main concentration is at Plaspoelwolder, a 250-acre zone known as The Hague-Rijkswijk, a park which has been built on land owned by Rijkswijk but



Part of the Delft factory producing murals and other designs in porcelain.

nessmen to sell harder in Britain's third largest export market (worth an estimated £2,000m). There are excellent opportunities for a wide variety of capital and consumer goods, he says.

The Netherlands-British Chamber of Commerce is equally keen to close the £1,000m trade gap, which it considers "unhealthy".

At present, the British embassy receives an average of a hundred market inquiries a month from British firms, and its commercial staff makes 2,400 visits a year. An agency-finding service is offered, besides advice on customs duty, non-standard tariffs, local standards, and general assistance to visiting businessmen from Britain.

"Because communications are so easy (249 direct flights and 78 sea crossings a week) a lot of visitors do

come; but we probably see fewer businessmen for a market of this size than we would normally expect," Mr Don Ballymore, Britain's commercial counsellor at The Hague, says.

Mr Buijendijk explains that, although the population of The Hague is shrinking, so are job opportunities. A senior executive of Siemens comments: "We are already living in the post-industrial world. We have the push-button factor to reckon with, and should concentrate on the parts of industry that are still profitable."

Other industrialists think that automation has increased the complexity of job requirements rather than significantly contributing to unemployment, which is at present about 5 per cent. The problem of "over education" and the resulting shortage of manual labour

coexists with the need for a retain employees in skills. Holland has some of the highest wage and production costs anywhere in Europe, but it exhibits characteristics of a very serious manpower shortage. Mr Buijendijk says: "When a Dutchman is it is very serious manpower shortage. Mr Buijendijk says: "When a Dutchman is it is very serious manpower shortage."

Foreign investment is welcomed by unions and management alike. In quality and competence, the Dutch view is that the British could learn a lot from the Dutch. The problem of "over education" and the resulting shortage of manual labour

State backs research to keep industry competitive

Faced with the challenge of foreign competition and emergent markets in developing countries, the Dutch have long recognized the need to improve or renew products and manufacturing methods.

Practical innovations "fostered" at The Hague include a self-extinguishing waste-paper bin, an automatic telephone number selector, a device for determining radiation exposure, and computerized simulators which since 1970 have been used to train more than 1,400 captains and navigators from all over the world, by imitating sea conditions.

These and countless other ideas have been developed by the Hague-based Netherlands Central Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO), the unique, state-subsidized research and development concern established 46 years ago with the initial aim of industrializing products from other countries for many products and basic necessities.

Today its approach in both pure and applied fields is multi-disciplinary, covering a range of interlocking social problems broadly under the headings of safety, national health, nutrition, environment and energy, living and working conditions, materials and construction, defence, product development and development cooperation.

TNO claims partial responsibility for inventing radar, and is now engaged in helping to perfect a new long-range military radar system. On the industrial front, TNO works on special projects with firms such as Siemens, whose electronic micro-processor equipment has been a mainstay of its commercial success over the past 18 months.

While approximately 80 per cent of TNO's 400mfl annual budget is subvented by the Government, the remainder is earned through work undertaken for industry. Its expert knowledge, for example, has been used in the design and construction of oilrig platforms in Norway and Scotland, and in improving print reproduction.

TNO also undertakes dozens of technology-transfer projects in developing countries each year. The organisation's 5,000 staff work in 35 institutes throughout The Netherlands. A government which

underwrites a mass of research from car seat-belt testing to heat exchanger studies expects results. Indeed, the TNO Act specifies that the organization must put research "at the service of the community in the most efficient manner possible."

Dr L. Stuy, chairman of TNO's central organization, says public confidence in TNO is high. Critics do not attack TNO's research into modern weapons and their effects—undertaken for purposes of mutual cooperation with Holland's NATO allies—so much as TNO's alleged occasional remoteness from practicalities.

Discussion is continuing about finding ways of ensuring that its research is applied on a wider basis and more in relation to economic needs.

University meets needs of commerce

Delft University of Technology, founded 136 years ago, is the oldest of Holland's three technical universities, and also the largest, with a student population of 11,000. It contains the country's only faculty of civil engineering, and also provides for the study of architecture, shipbuilding, mining, physics, geodesy and aerospace technology.

From this seat of learning, specialists in offshore work, port construction, road-making, bridge and dam-building have found their way to places as widespread as Nigeria, Brazil and Malaysia, proof of the maxim that "the Dutch live by the sea" geographically and commercially.

A further example of the particular national need that is served by the university, comprises the advice being given in connexion with the Nieuwduinen project, in which the implementation of a new land reclamation scheme is being undertaken. Delft more closely. External research is undertaken where the firm fits into the overall education programme.

A similar structure applies at the general University of Leiden, whose famous law and medical faculties are complemented by, among others, those of languages, economics, physics and chemistry. The oldest uni-

versity in The Netherlands, Leiden, celebrated the 400th anniversary of its founding in 1975.

An industrialist comments: "Our universities are very good in a technical way, but more structuring is needed. They do not relate closely enough to our needs." Plans to broaden the educational base and to start an open university in Holland are being discussed by the Ministry of Education.

Since the end of the Second World War, chemical developments have become one of the most important sectors of industry in The Netherlands, largely through developments in oil-processing methods which have in turn led to a new range of chemical products. These account for 10 per cent of all sales by the Royal Dutch/Shell Group.

At Rijswijk, the group maintains one of its two research laboratories concerned exclusively with the study of the exploration and production of oil and natural gas (the other is at Houston, Texas).

Part of Shell Research, the Rijswijk centre, works on improved methods for predicting oil and gas reserves, monitors the industry's geophysical equipment and techniques, and experiments with optimum drilling processes, including offshore operations, as well as being involved in the disciplines of petro-physics, production technology and production geology.

Shell Group management regard the laboratory as vitally important in improving its scientific knowledge, methods and technical tools, and in applying these to the practical sphere of operations.

The Dutch are not merely aware, but act on the recognition that if they wish to remain competitive with overseas rivals such as the United States and Japan, they also must find new developments and innovations—and viable applications for them as fast as possible.

At Rijswijk and other centres in the region, there is continual pressure for a "fall-out" from pure research that can be converted for industrial and commercial use. Equally, in response to consumer pressures, there is continuing research into more efficient manufacturing processes which do not pollute the environment.

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at sea over housing

poeted for ward by Polyzathe, a Dutch development corporation which wants to build 3,000 houses and a yacht marina off the coast at Scheveningen.

A third scheme has been suggested by two Hague city councillors who advocate the construction of 8,000 homes between Scheveningen and Kijkduin. In official circles, which regard a city on the sea as a "very futuristic project", the latter plan is seen more as an attempt to open up the matter for public debate.

Legal, environmental and socio-economic implications are being assessed, as well as the purely technical questions. With an average population of 720 residents a square kilometre, The Hague is among the most densely populated regions of Western Europe. On present projections, a further 15,000 to 20,000 homes will be needed by 1990.

The necessary expansion cannot be made inland. The various reasons for this include the shortage of land, available for in-fill building, and "Kijkduin" is twin resortments of multi-storey flats and long-distance commuting. In addition, there would be serious objections from commercial growers affected by any extensive building inland.

City officials foresee problems arising over distribution of the cost which could, on some estimates, reach £1,000,000. However, they believe agreement will be reached by which the state will share the burden with local municipalities.

"We need new housing," a city official comments, "but quite a few people will be opposed to building along the coast, even if there is a shortage of land. The city government has to reckon with the quality of people's surroundings."

N.C.

New towns meet demand for high standards

Twenty years ago the average household in The Hague consisted of four people. Today, that figure has dropped to two, the result of earlier marriage, smaller families, easier divorce, and the desire for greater personal independence and higher living standards.

Modern couples refuse to tolerate the close-quartered, upper-storey flats with sub-standard kitchens and bathrooms and no lifts, which their parents were only too grateful to find.

Their ideal is a two or three-storey town house or five-room apartment in visually attractive surroundings. They are migrating east and west to find it, to new neighbourhood estates such as Houtwijk and New Waldeck (6,500 families), and to Zoetermeer (Sweet Lake City), 15 miles east of The Hague.

In 15 years, Zoetermeer has been transformed from a quiet village of 900 residents into Holland's largest and fastest-growing new town. It contains 52,000 residents and covers 3,500 hectares.

Its planners have worked inwards from the outer limits, erecting the four residential quarters first. Work has just begun on the city centre. A decision will be made next month on whether to expand the projected population of 80,000 to 100,000 by the end of the century.

Maximum living and working accommodation is contained within the minimum area: the Dutch favour a tradition of small but distinctly separated communities.

N.C.



Houses at Zoetermeer, Holland's largest and fastest-growing new town.

Any sense of compression, brutalism and dogmatic statement are refreshingly absent. Integrated, well-scaled lines lead the eye from galerijhuis (an early venture into multi-storey building, now abandoned) to the covered shopping precincts and unrepentant housing areas, some of which have been imaginatively shaped around water-side settings. The old village has been retained.

Commensurate leisure, sports and other social amenities have been developed, along with shopping and transport facilities. Fifty per cent of Zoetermeer residents are still drawn to

The Hague for work. But industry is fast being attracted to the new town and could soon require more space than allotted at present, according to a spokesman for the Zoetermeer authority.

About half the homes there meet the prevalent demand for low-rent accommodation. Their standard is about equal to that of better-quality rented homes in Britain's new towns, with rents about double the British level (and constituting a sixth to a seventh of a family's outgoings). The homebuyer has to pay double or treble the average price in England.

A recent report, *People and Houses*, indicates that a further decline in population of 75,000 is likely in The Hague over the next 20 years, partly because of the falling birth-rate but also because the exodus of young families will probably continue.

The 15,000 names on The Hague's housing list are a burning political and social issue. With the completion of Houtwijk and New Waldeck, the last available sites have been swallowed up. The possibility of building on neighbouring land in Leidsehaven, Wateringen, Pijnacker and other localities is being considered.

Meanwhile, homes which have become obsolete by modern standards are being restored or replaced by new housing, which is invariably relet to former tenants, thus enabling a much-valued sense of community identity to be maintained. Subsidies

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A world under glass in the shadow of industry

products has been difficult to maintain, particularly in the early 1970s in the aftermath of the oil crisis, when the cost of heating the glass-houses rose so much that it became increasingly difficult to compete with imports from countries with a lot of sunshine, such as Italy and the East European countries, where labour costs are much lower and agriculture is highly subsidized.

Fraudulently Dutch activities, such as the sale of greenhouses to the Romanians and Bulgarians, have helped to raise productivity in those countries to such an extent that their export wares have priced the Dutch out of the export market.

In the shadow of the towering refinery chimneys of Pernis and the network of Europe's canals, more minutes from the centres of The Hague, Delft or Rotterdam, one is suddenly in a totally different world. Highly mechanized and advanced as their methods are, the Westland farmers remain country people.

They live in villages whose inhabitants rarely move far from home, they keep to their traditional churches and their loyalty to the Dutch monarchy, and to their

natural distrust of townfolk. They may live in luxurious villas and bungalows which turn those townfolk green with envy, but many of them have known hard times and they know how quickly fortunes can change again.

Many factors, such as the influence of the weather and the threat of plant epidemics, are almost under control. But the people do not have any influence on the world politics which determine the fate of their exports, and that uncertainty makes them cautious in their optimism.

The Westland has been a market gardening area for centuries but the cultivation of flowers is a recent development. Farmers' wives have always grown flowers in their vegetable gardens, however, and farmers have taken a few bunches to the auction room along with the vegetables, pumping their flat-bottomed boats along the shallow network of canals which still thread through the Westland but are now mainly used by the motor cruisers in which the townfolk seek their recreation.

The first suggestion of a separate auction came not because the flower trade was developing, as well, but because the buyers at the vegetable auction complained that the small quantities of flowers and plants held up trade.

In about 1900 some grape-

growers started a sideline in chrysanthemums and French ferns. By using the glass-houses they could make the chrysanthemums bloom earlier, thus fetching a higher price, and they could grow fern all year round.

As more flowers and plants came to market, a number of growers decided to auction their produce in Amsterdam, and later at the largest Dutch flower and plant auction in Aalsmeer. It was 1923 before the Westland had its own flower auction, the forerunner of the present C.C.W.S. auction at Honselersdijk which, with a turnover of more than 200m guilders a year, vies with Aalsmeer for the title of largest auction in the country.

At Naaldwijk in the centre of the Westland is the country's Research Centre for Vegetables and Fruit. The experimental schemes tested there are mostly aimed at growing more vegetables and fruit on the same area of land.

The Westland has practically no chance to expand. It is hemmed in by blocks of flats and industrial developments, and it needs all its energy to keep away the property developers.

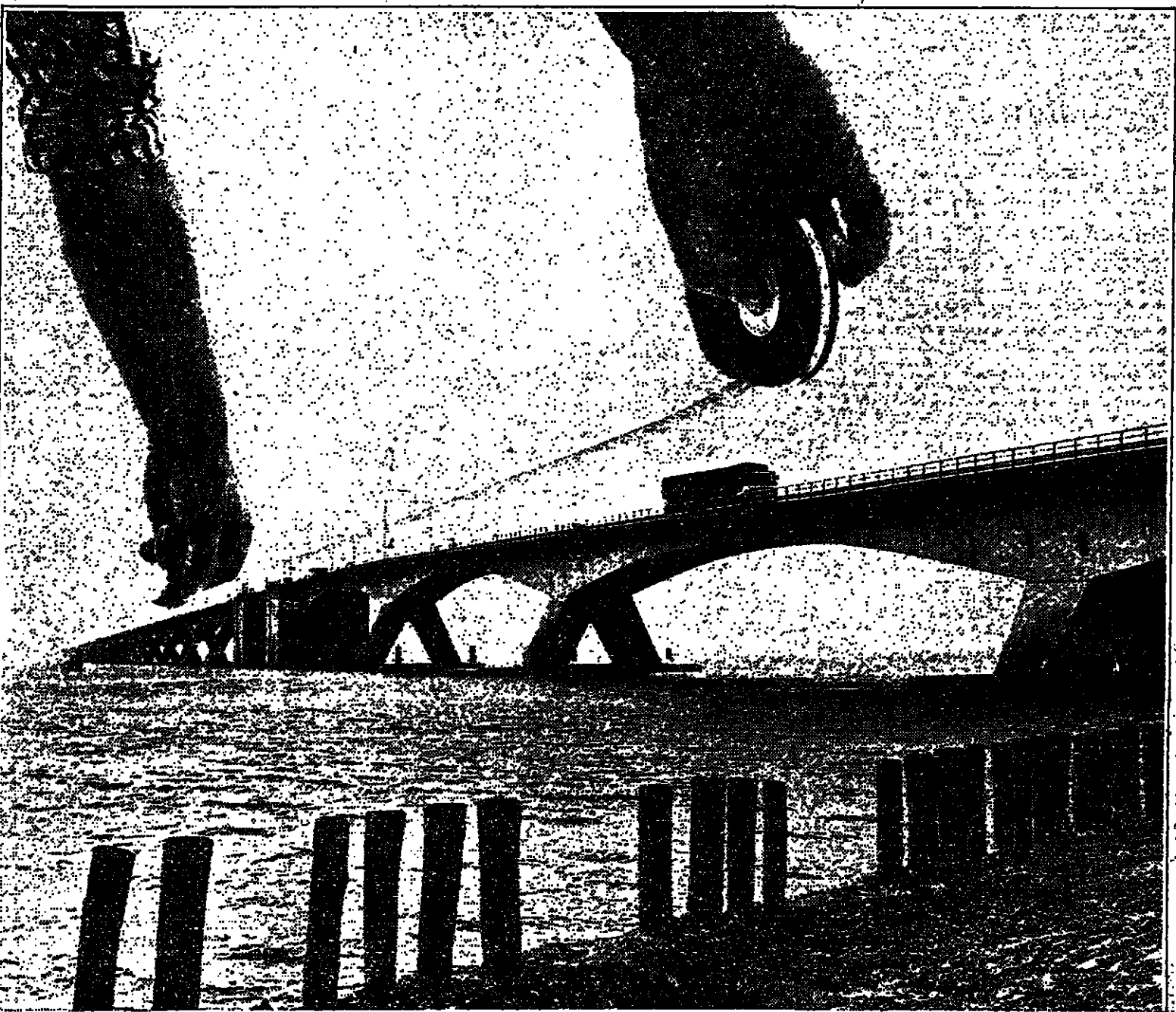
The only way to increase production is to increase productivity. Experiments at the research station show, for instance, that it is theoretically possible to quadruple the quantity of tomatoes grown in a greenhouse by using a complex tiered system of plants with computer-controlled dosing with fertilizers and fluids.

These methods are not only put to use in Holland. Many of them are taken to the developing countries where the production of fruit and vegetables can do much to solve problems of malnutrition. A system of "immunizing" tomatoes and some vegetables against disease is one of the centre's projects which have helped to stop crop failures abroad.

Now that tomatoes are being nurtured by computer and the paprikae grow freely as though Holland were a tropical country, and not a land where hailstorms take their toll of greenhouse glass every winter, it seems a long time since the primitive days of the early auction.

But it is only 30 years since the auction rooms, like the rest of The Netherlands, had to start from scratch after the devastations of war. Everything had to be rebuilt—the greenhouses, the lines of export trade, the management and administration of a complex industry.

Today it is one of the most advanced horticultural areas in the world, and it must work hard to remain so, since the production of marketable vegetables, fruit and flowers in an industrialized country with a fixed wage structure means that only by increasing productivity and being willing to switch from one product to another, as the market demands, can a market gardener keep his head above water. This is a basic essential in an area which is geographically often 16 ft under sea level.



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Hearty taste for the good things

by Penelope Turing

There is nothing ethereal
about Dutch cuisine or the
Dutch people's approach to
it. The masterpieces of El
Greco could never have been
created by a Dutch painter.
Look at the work of Rem-
brandt and Frans Hals and
you will see a resilient,
humorous and distinctly well
nourished people.

Today the Netherlands
are a good deal slendrier
than their forebears but they
have surrendered nothing of
their appreciation of good
food and hearty drink:
fish from the North Sea,
dairy products from the
faithfully cultivated fertile
lands, and a measure or two
of ginger to quicken enjoyment
of all the good things
of life.

Basically, Dutch food is
simple though imaginatively
cooked, but Holland's old
links with the East Indies
have grafted on to it the
exotic, spicy Indonesian
dishes which are now almost
as much a part of Dutch
gastronomy as raw herring
or Edam cheese.

Traditionally, the Dutch
start the day with a hearty
breakfast—not the British
bacon and eggs but several
different kinds of Dutch
round flat rusks on which
are eaten slices of cheese,
jam or various kinds of other
confection. There is porridge
in winter and yogurt in summer,
and boiled eggs as an
optional extra: all accom-
panied by ample quantities
of tea or coffee.

Dutch rusks, called
beschuit, claim descent from
the Roman soldiers' marching
rations of twice-baked
bread, and the name has the
same Latin origin as our bis-
cuit. The modern equivalent,
exported as crispbakes,
is familiar in Britain as well
as Holland.

Either at breakfast or at
the *koffietafel* cold lunch (a
widespread habit in Holland
where the hot meal is usually
eaten in the evening) one
meets the traditional Dutch
cheeses in all their glory—
Gouda, the creamy one from
the heart of the country (the
Gouda cheese market is held
every Thursday morning
from May to September), the
more famous Edam, and
various other kinds.

At lunch cold meats make
their appearance too. Hol-
land is the world's largest
producer of pork, found in
its country of origin as ham
and various kinds of thinly
sliced sausage; smoked
sausage is a favourite. Coffee
or tea are the normal *koffie-
tafel* beverages, and the meal
ends with fruit.

Fish is an important and
delicious part of Holland's
food: herring, sole, eel, trout
(there is an extensive trout
farm industry), lobsters and
shrimps, and the big Zealand
oysters and mussels are avail-

able from September to

March.

At home the evening meal
is eaten early, between 5.30
and eight o'clock, and usu-
ally consists of soup, meat or
fish and vegetables, and a
sweet. Pancakes are popular.
In winter there is the uni-
quely *erwten soep* made
from split peas, pigs trotters
or smoked knuckle of pig,
and lots of vegetables.
Served with slices of sausage,
this is a main course and
figures on every restaurant
menu during the colder
months.

Holland's restaurants
range from the snooty inter-
national ones to the simpler
local establishments. Dutch
meat is excellent. Steaks are
usually served rare, so if you
like yours well done be sure
to specify *doorbakken bief-
stuk*.

Market gardening being a
special part of Holland's
economy, salads, vegetables
and fruit—strawberries,
grapes, apples, pears—form
a varied and delicious part
of most meals. The side
salads served with hot meat
are especially good.

Probably the most intrigu-
ing aspect of eating in
Holland is the happy
balance between the
country's immemorial native
products and its adoption of
foreign ones such as the
Indonesian *rijsttafel* and the
manufacture of chocolate.

Beer is the usual accom-
paniment to a *rijsttafel* and
the light, lager-type Dutch
beers are well known.

Dutch gin (*genever*) is the
country's national spirit and
is drunk neat and chilled.
There are two types: very old
genever is a distillation
of malt wine made from
equal quantities of maize,
rye and barley with a final
distillation over juniper
berries, then blended with
grain wine; young *genever*
is matured for a shorter time
and has different propor-
tions of malt wine and grain
wine. Both are made by a
different process from that
used for dry gin.

Advocaat, the rich egg
liqueur, fruit *genevers*, and
a variety of special liqueurs
are other products.

The acknowledged father
of Holland's extensive family
of alcoholic drinks was Lucas
Bols who built a still and
set up his business in the
outskirts of Amsterdam in
1575. It remained in the
Bols' family for 240 years
and the name is retained in
the modern form of Erven
Lucas Bols.

Dutch herring cocktail
2 herrings
5 tomatoes
sour cream
salt
paprika powder
Worcestershire sauce
chopped parsley
1 onion

2 green peppers

pepper

mayonnaise

tomato ketchup

2 hard-boiled eggs

1 lettuce

Cut herrings into small

pieces. Mix the mayonnaise

and sour cream. Season with

salt, pepper, paprika powder,

tomato ketchup and Worces-

tershire sauce. Cut onion into

rings, tomatoes into halves

and peppers into slices. Mix

with herring pieces. Arrange

lettuce leaves or shredded

lettuce in glasses and put

the mixture on it. Garnish

with slices of hard-boiled

eggs and chopped parsley.

Serve with the sauce.

Hague cucumber

1 large cucumber

2oz fat

salt

pepper

sugar

1 tablespoon dill

8oz bacon or ham

1 egg yolk

4pt cream

Peel and dice the cucum-

ber. Remove the seeds with

a spoon. Heat the butter or

fat. Season the cucumber

with salt, pepper and sugar.

Fry lightly. Meanwhile, grill

the ham or bacon, then add

to the tender cucumber.

Make a sauce by adding the

cream and one beaten egg

yolk. Do not boil. Sprinkle

with chopped parsley and

dill and serve with potatoes.

Gouda pie

4oz rough puff or flaky

8oz Gouda cheese

4 to 6 mushrooms

2 or 3 tomatoes

How to make yourself at home

by Henk Aben

There are several ways lead-
ing to The Hague. From the
airports at Amsterdam and
Rotterdam there are motor-
ways. From the ferry at the
Hook of Holland there is the
thrilling road through the
greenhouses area of West-
land, called "Glass City".
The ferry to Scheveningen
brings you straight to the
most beautiful village of The
Netherlands.

The Hague is a city, seat of
international companies, the
International Court of Jus-
tice, such as Garouda, where
provincial and national gov-
ernment.

Once in The Hague, life
will prove to be more com-
plicated than at home or even
in the rest of the small coun-
try. Those complications,
however, give life an extra
charm and many surprises.

Language will not be a dif-
ficulty. Many Dutchmen
speak a few words of English
and the Scheveningen
beach German is the second
language in the holiday sea-
son.

A few words of Dutch will
open many hearts. *Tot ziens*,
(pronounced "tot ziens")
means "I will see you
later". A Dutchman will be
surprised to hear that from
you and will admire your
knowledge of his language.
To ask for *Koffie met
slagroom* (pronounced "kof-
fee met slagroom") meaning
"coffee with cream" will
make a businessman popular
in Holland and help his busi-
ness.

One of the most impor-
tant things to learn is to
take the Dutch seriously
since they do so themselves.
For centuries they have been
surprised that nobody out-
side Holland has understood
that their wisdom and their
way of solving problems,
especially those somebody
else, is the best contribution
to peace and happiness in
the world. The Hague, with
its splendid collection of
part-time and full-time
politicians, is indeed a rare
example of a combination of
holiness to teach mankind
and a lack of understanding
for the outside world.

Still, The Hague is
thrilling. The marvellous,
centuries-old Hall of
Knights, where the Queen
opens the session of Parlia-
ment each year, is just one
few hundred yards from
Babylon, the super modern
shopping centre near Central
Station. The city is sur-
rounded by ancient cities
like Delft and Leiden, the
new town of Zoetermeer,
and Wassenaar, the village
for ambassadors, business-
men coming and going, re-
tired politicians and a haven
for real estate agencies.

Walking in the city you
will see more than else-
where in Holland, proud
men wearing a coloured
button, the sign of being a
knight, officer or even com-
mander of the Order of
Orange Nassau, or of the
Dutch Lion or other royal
awards.

Doing business in The
Hague is fun if you under-
stand the rules and tradi-
tions. The Dutch have cre-
ated over four centuries of
trade and negotiations. If you
have an appointment, be on time.
In the morning a cup of
coffee will be offered, and
in the afternoon some tea or
a drink the Dutch call tea.

Sherry is a popular
aperitif before lunch—the
Dutch drink more sherry a
head than you should be
British, but do not be sur-
prised if your host drinks
port. In the evening there

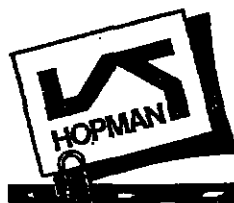
melted butter
pepper and salt
Roll pastry thinly and line
an oblong Swiss roll tin
approximately 11 in x 8 in.
Prick base and cover with
slices of Gouda cheese.
Arrange a diagonal line of
mushrooms and cover the
remainder of the cheese with
thin slices of tomato. Brush
the mushrooms with melted
butter, season well. Bake in
a hot oven (425°F) for 20-
30 minutes.

Limburg vlaai
(Cherry flan)
6oz plain flour
4oz butter
pinch of salt
2oz castor sugar
1 egg yolk
1 tin black Morello cherries
1pt cherry juice
1 tablespoon cherry brandy
1 heaped teaspoon arrowroot
1 pt double cream

Make pastry base by rub-
bing butter into the flour and
salt until mixture resembles
breadcrumbs. Add sugar,
bind together with the egg
yolk, and press into a well-
buttered 10 in flan tin. Prick
the bottom with a fork. Bake
in a moderate oven (375°F)
for 30 minutes. Leave for 10
minutes to cool slightly be-
fore removing from tin. Drain
and stone cherries and place
on pastry base.

Make a glaze by blending
the arrowroot with the cherry
juice and heat till it
thickens, then add cherry
brandy. Allow to cool slightly
before spooning it over the
cherries which are in the
pastry base. Decorate with
freshly whipped cream.

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etc.
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Chemicals
investment in
search of
a market, p 29

Both Bank of England and OECD suggest modest stimulus in April Budget

around 2½ per cent, with unemployment stabilizing at around 6½ per cent and the rate of inflation remaining within single figures.

Earnings are expected to grow by about 14 per cent (the Bank says they will go up "13 per cent or more") during the current wage round.

The Bank Bulletin remains notably pessimistic in tone about the world background against which the British economy will develop, and recent talk of joint international action leaves them unconvinced that words are about to be converted into deeds.

The present outlook is that the world will expand sluggishly and the United Kingdom will find it difficult to move out of line, it argues. The problem is made more intense by the need to have a surplus on current account.

In a discussion of the outlook for 1979, the Bulletin suggests that the economy could be expanding quite rapidly then because the pace at which imports are increasing their share of the British market may slacken. However, the Bank, and to some extent the OECD, are very pessimistic about the extent to which imports have penetrated and will penetrate British markets.

The two studies agree that the United Kingdom will be in surplus this year. The Bank expects that this will be true next year, though with a smaller surplus.

Where the two bodies clearly disagree on the external side is in the Bank's belief that the balance of payments is already a constraint on action.

The OECD thinks that Britain has a positive duty to hold down its surplus to help the rest of the world to recover.

Healey is told that he must limit himself to modest published today. Bank of England in a Quarterly Bulletin that a moderate fiscal stimulus should be possible without losing control of the supply or intensifying any pressures.

However, any large stimulus must be accompanied by a corresponding increase in public expenditure, particularly in the economy might be used for tax cuts, public spending, the Bank says.

Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, in its annual survey of the United Kingdom, says that the need to restrain inflation remains the dominant factor in the policy of the economy, and attaches far less weight to the Bank of England's desire for a surplus on its account on the balance of payments.

The organization has no general comments on the "moderate" rather than "modest" stimulus into figures. Officials would clearly go to an expansionist policy giving any increase as much as £300m.

Outside guesses of the Mr Healey will give a focus on a figure of £200m.

A considerable agreement between the two bodies is happening and what is to occur in the British OECD predicts this year will be

British chemical groups to spend £4,000m in three years on new plant and equipment

By Peter Hill

Britain's chemical industry is planning to spend nearly £4,000m over the next three years on new plant and equipment in the United Kingdom with a growing proportion earmarked for development in Scotland.

Total investment could amount to £3,900m while the planned growth in output of the industry over the period will require an increase in working capital amounting to about £2,200m—representing a total cash requirement for the industry of £6,100m.

This was the encouraging news given yesterday by the Chemical Industries Association in its latest survey of the industry's capital spending intentions. According to the CIA, the industry plans to spend £1,070m this year on new capital investment. This is a 30 per cent rise in current cash terms on the levels achieved last year.

Further increases are expected next year and in 1980. The survey noted that much of this year's spending reflected implementation of decisions already taken.

The association stressed that the future spending levels would be influenced by corporate confidence in the future.

Key factors which the chemical companies will take into consideration will be the future trading conditions in both the United Kingdom and overseas, and expectations on costs, inflation, prices and exchange rates and the attitude displayed by the Government in its policies towards industry.

Announcing the results of the latest survey, Mr Jim Stewart, chairman of the organization's economics committee, said: "We are confident that our present plant capacity, together with these future plans, will give the United Kingdom industry ample ability to match a high rate of growth in the rest of the economy, if this can be safely achieved."

He continued: "The upward momentum of our investment this year and next should provide great encouragement to all in the industry and to its customers and suppliers."

Last year the industry is estimated to have spent about £820m, which is a slight

Cambridge counts the costs of Europe

Any suggestion that Britain is being subsidized by the European Community is wrong. On the contrary, it is Britain which, taking everything into account, is subsidizing the Community partners to the extent of about £1,000m a year, according to three Cambridge economists.

Moreover, the cost of EEC membership on the country's real income and output is greater than this implies. Real national income (that is what we actually spend) could be £3,000m higher but for the burden of membership.

This trenchant assessment of the price that Britons are paying to remain a constituent of the EEC is made by Mr Richard Bacon and Mr Alister McFarquhar, members of the Cambridge Department of Land Economy, and Mr Wynne Godley, director of the Department of Applied Economics.

Their study, published this morning, forms one of the chapters of the fourth Economic Policy Review, produced each year by the Department of Applied Economics.

One of the main aims of the economists is to compare what has actually happened since we joined the EEC with the 1971 White Paper, The United Kingdom and the European Community (Cmd 4715), which was the main prospectus for entry and which formed the basis of the public discussion about whether or not to join.

The authors note that, as set out in that White Paper, the direct cost to the United Kingdom balance of payments falls into two categories: the annual net cash contribution to the Community Budget and the higher food prices which the EEC than if we had continued to import food from traditional suppliers.

If allowance is made for inflation, the White Paper estimates implied that in 1978 the total direct costs of payments made up of a budgetary contribution of about £700m, and the balance-of-payments cost of higher food prices amounting to £150m.

The authors conclude that the direct costs of membership have not proved very different to what was estimated in the White Paper. They put the total cost at £850m, made up of a £650m budgetary contribution, and a £200m balance-of-payments cost of higher food prices.

The effect on consumer prices is put at 12 per cent, rather than the expected 16 per cent.

But they refute the claim that because of the "green pound" arrangements—the artificial rate of exchange used in the Community's agricultural trade—Britain is being "subsidized" to the extent of £375m a year.

They argue that if the "green pound" were devalued in line with the real exchange rate, this would increase the incomes of British farmers and stimulate domestic production, as well as reducing consumption.

Melvyn Westlake

Halfway figures point to 14pc rise in earnings during phase three

At the halfway mark for phase three of the Government's pay policy, all the signs are pointing to the likelihood that earnings from employment will show a rise of close on 14 per cent for the year as a whole.

Sch an outturn looked more credible after the publication yesterday of new government figures which revealed that earnings actually fell marginally in January.

The Department of Employment, monitoring the earnings of some 6,000,000 employees, decided in January by 0.2 per cent, after rising by 2.2 per cent in December and 1.9 per cent in November.

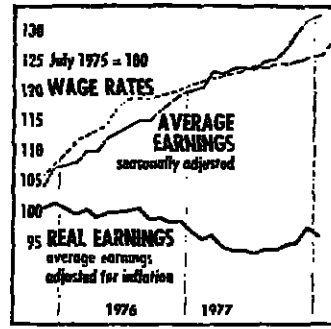
This index, which is seasonally adjusted, is known as the "old" series. A new index covering the whole economy, which will show individual monthly movements.

An actual fall in the index is not unprecedented. The last time it happened was in April 1977. Moreover, in past years, January has witnessed a fall in earnings, or a very marginal rise.

The reason appears to be that employees work a lot more intensively before Christmas than afterwards, and this is reflected in the amount of money received in the pay packet.

At the same time there were no major wage settlements during January. What this all means is that since August 1, when phase three began, earnings have risen by some 6.8 per cent—equivalent to 14.1 per cent at an annual rate.

Fourteen per cent is now the central figure of most economic forecasts, and is a good deal lower than the 17 to 20 per cent estimates of earnings growth



Court Line inspectors' report out today

By Nicholas Hirst

A Department of Trade Inspectors' report on the affairs of Court Line, the shipbuilding and holiday company which collapsed in 1974 leaving 40,000 holiday makers stranded, is to be published today.

The inspectors, one of whom is Mr Douglas Morphet, senior accountant at Touche Ross, who prepared the ill-fated inflation accounting proposals, are expected to comment on the work of the auditors to Court Line, Robson Rhodes, and on the company's treatment of its members.

A preliminary report on the Court Line affair has already been delivered to the Government and with a critical report from the Parliamentary Commissioner (the Ombudsman) was discussed in a debate in the House of Commons in August 1975.

Before that a report by Peat Marwick Mitchell, who assisted the liquidator of Court Line, Mr Rupert Nicholson, had singled out major deficiencies in the basic accounting procedures of the Clarkson and Horizon subsidiaries.

Court Line's collapse caused a storm of anger in Parliament. Earlier in the year it crashed, Mr Wedgwood Benn, then Secretary of State for Industry, had invoked the Industry Act to nationalize the group's shipbuilding interests in an attempt to save the group and safeguard holidaymakers.

Statements made by the Government at that time led to criticisms by the Ombudsman which was rejected by the Government.

Court Line was built up by Mr John Young partly by daring acquisitions from a company with profits of £600,000 to £4.7m in the space of five years.

Brussels accepts UK job support plans to replace direct subsidies

By Christopher Thomas, Labour Reporter

A £300m Government programme of job measures is being extended nationally from April 1 to release an estimated 21,000 jobs. It is at present restricted to assisted areas.

Mr Booth, who is meeting TUC leaders soon, has been told by Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, that he resents "interference in our internal affairs" by the EEC. But the minister was confident the TUC would cooperate.

"I think that people who want to start new firms realize they can qualify. Every worker is within the scope of these measures. I hope some of the giants of the next decade will take their first steps under this", Mr Booth added.

It is estimated that the measures, coupled with the Youth Opportunities Programme, the Special Temporary Employment Programme and Special Training Measures, at any one time involve 400,000 people by March 1979, compared with 320,000 now.

Michael Hornsby writes: Under the agreement with the European Commission, the total TES budget will be pruned to £135m in 1978-79, compared with £222m this fiscal year. Within this total the amount going to the textiles, clothing and footwear sectors will be reduced to £55m from £106m.

About 180,000 jobs are estimated to be directly dependent on the existing TES, about half of them in textiles, clothing and footwear. Thus about 42,000 jobs in these three sectors and 28,000 elsewhere will be affected.

Workers who in consequence are put on short time will get three quarters of their pay for each day they are laid off. Employers will pay the money and be compensated by the Government.

From July 1 the small firms' employment subsidy will be extended to include companies in assisted areas employing fewer than 200 people. That will support an extra 70,000 jobs. At present the scheme applies only to companies in special development areas with fewer than 50 employees.

The job release scheme, enabling people a year younger than the state pension age to leave work early, is being extended nationally from April 1 to release an estimated 21,000 jobs. It is at present restricted to assisted areas.

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It is estimated that the measures, coupled with the Youth Opportunities Programme, the Special Temporary Employment Programme and Special Training Measures, at any one time involve 400,000 people by March 1979, compared with 320,000 now.

Michael Hornsby writes: Under the agreement with the European Commission, the total TES budget will be pruned to £135m in 1978-79, compared with £222m this fiscal year. Within this total the amount going to the textiles, clothing and footwear sectors will be reduced to £55m from £106m.

About 180,000 jobs are estimated to be directly dependent on the existing TES, about half of them in textiles, clothing and footwear. Thus about 42,000 jobs in these three sectors and 28,000 elsewhere will be affected.

How the markets moved

Rises		Falls	
Allen & Ross	10p to 480p	Shell Trans	9p to 506p
Bank of Ireland	6p to 336p	Sum Alliance	8p to 522p
Cater Ryder	7p to 282p	Ultramar	8p to 220p
Esperanza	8p to 133p	Unilever	10p to 476p
Fluidrive Eng	4p to 66p	Venterspost	14p to 226p
Irish Distillers	6p to 123p	Wills Faber	15p to 285p
Ldn Prov Post	4p to 205p	Winklabank	13p to 764p

Equities slip back. Gilt edged securities edge better. Dollar premium 95.62 per cent (against 95.48 per cent). Sterling lost 80 points to 61.9070. The effective exchange rate index was 64.3.

Gold lost \$2.25 an ounce to \$186.125. SDR \$ was 1.22465 on Wednesday, while SDR £ was 0.642068. Commodities: Rubber index was at 1394.4 (previous 1391.2). Reports, pages 31 and 32

On other pages

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I accepts grudging compromise government pay pledge clauses

Government and the Confederation of British Industry have agreed a compromise over the government's pay pledge clauses, inserted in all government contracts.

A grand council, which yesterday has recommended that each individual company should use its own judgment on the sign government containing the amended clauses.

After four weeks of meetings, called by the Government last month when it appeared that the CBI was on the brink of open rebellion, ministers have made more than cosmetic changes.

Originally the clauses applied to all sub-contractors, both direct and indirect. They are now limited to direct sub-contractors with an estimated value of 5 per cent of the main contract, or £500,000, whichever is the lower, and with a lower limit of £10,000. The Government has also agreed that if a sub-contractor is required by the Government to accept a sub-contractor's contract as a result of an infringement by the sub-contractor, he will be indemnified for costs.

To get rid of potentially industrial situations where a contract could be imperilled by agreement with any single employee of any contractor or sub-contractor, the Government has limited the definition of settlement to "one hundred, or 10 per cent—whichever is less—of company employees covered by the incomes policy."

It has also agreed to remove the obligation to notify the Government of any movement from the Government on arbitration. The CBI, worried by the power given to the Government to decide what constituted pay policy and who had broken it, wanted an appeals procedure, but the Government refused.

CORD RESULTS FOR ILYS IN '77

From 30th September, 1977, Henlys Limited, distributors, achieved the highest results in and more than double the previous year. These were:

	1977	1976
etc.	£160,200,000	£129,300,000
ire taxation	£4,322,000	£1,903,000
er Ordinary	26.7p	13.5p
er Ordinary	6.6545p	5.9007p

DA GOOD START TO '78

Meeting held yesterday in London, and Managing Director, Mr. Gordon Chandler, in trading in the current year said:

"Company is in very good heart and well make further progress as indicated by the through from last year into this. Our figures for the first five months of this year confirm the progress reported in the statement, and we expect highly interim figures. With higher new car in the U.K. predicted for this year I feel expressing much optimism for our final year."

HENLYS
House, 385/7 Euston Road, London NW1 3AX

Derek Crouch (Contractors)

LIMITED

Extracts from the Report and Accounts for the year to December 31st, 1977 and the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. D.C.H. Crouch

	1977	1976
Turnover	30,854	28,002
Earnings before tax	2,467	1,817
Taxation	1,215	812
Extraordinary Items	10	—
Dividends	336	301
Earnings Retained	926	704
Earnings per Share	12.91p	10.36p

Dividend
An increased final dividend of 2.786p per share is recommended making a total of 3.9387p for the year against 3.5266p for 1976.

Results
All sections of the business have performed well in 1977 with all operations meeting expectations.

Revaluation
A revaluation of plant and machinery has produced an excess over book value which is not reflected in the accounts of 95,956,000.

Future
In the United States we have taken a substantial interest in a new company formed to take over the assets of an existing business involved in strip mining coal. We shall act as operators in this venture in addition to being large stockholders. It is expected that a small profit may be forthcoming from this operation this year. We anticipate an expansion in our business and an increase in profits for 1978.

Head Office: Peterborough PE6 7UW
Telephone: Peterborough 222341 Telex 32129

BP to hire rig for Buchan field drilling

By Peter Hill

BP is expected to take delivery of a converted drilling rig to produce oil from the group's Buchan field next spring, following agreement reached with the Department of Energy for its development.

Conversion of the rig to a production platform will be undertaken by Matthews Hall at a cost of £42m, and BP will charter the platform on a bareboat basis for a three-year period at a daily rate of \$12,500 (about £5,580).

Work on the conversion will begin in October and will be completed in May next year.

Drilling of a series of development wells has already begun and will be completed by next March. BP plans to begin production from the field in the third quarter of next year.

The approved production programme agreed with the Department of Energy provides for a maximum annual average production rate of about 50,000 barrels daily and the recovery of some 50 million barrels in the first four years of production.

Within 21 months of the start-up of production from the field, which lies nearly 100 miles east-north-east of Aberdeen, BP and the other licensees will submit a revised development programme to the Department.

This will take account of the information gained from the drilling of the seven wells now being sunk and the first 18 months of production.

This information, BP said yesterday, would enable the company to evaluate whether the field's reserves extended beyond those previously published and on which the present development programme has been based.

The revised programme would cover a period from the expiration of 24 months' production to probably the end of the life of the field and, if agreed by the Department, would lead to a revised development consent for this period.

Speke shutdown 'only way' to save TR7

Mr Michael Edwards, British Leyland's chairman, told a group of Merseyside Labour MPs yesterday that the transfer of TR7 production from the troubled Speke plant was unavoidable. It was "the only way it would be possible to keep the car in production," he said.

The MPs, led by Mr Eddie Lloyd, MP for Garston, spent an hour with Mr Edwards at his London headquarters. They have been campaigning to have the closure decision—announced nearly a month ago—reversed because of high unemployment on Merseyside.

A Leyland spokesman said later that Mr Edwards told the MPs that trade union officials and shop stewards were informed of the closure last week.

At yesterday's meeting Mr Edwards emphasized that the intention to close the TR7 plant at Speke was based on "urgent commercial needs" to reduce the substantial losses in producing the car.

The poor level of performance at Speke was not the overriding consideration, Leyland now had excess assembly capacity and the transfer of the TR7 to the Midlands would make a real contribution to cutting losses.

Land sales, he said, had been affected by uncertainty about the effects of DLT, as well as the continuing recession and restraint in local authority expenditure—local authorities being the board's first statutory option when offering land for sale.

The problem for the property board is that so far, when DLT has been calculated on a project—the tax being applied to the difference between pre and post-development values—the cost of railway operational works involved in the development have not been allowed into the equation.

If such costs were taken into account it could in some cases mean the difference between 40 per cent of the final value being liable for tax as against, possibly, 90 per cent.

On Liverpool Street, a £150m scheme, the property board is still waiting for a planning consent decision. Although this is likely to be forthcoming there could be conditions on the retention of listed buildings which would affect the costs of the project considerably.

The property board's provisional returns showed an increase in gross income last year of nearly £4m to £30m. This was a 15 per cent increase over 1976 which the board regarded as satisfactory at a time when property market activity had been badly hit.

New income from property developments, as well as regular rent reviews, accounted for the improvement, Mr Dashwood said. There were 42 development projects under construction last year and 19 were completed.

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The National Union of Mineworkers has accused the EEC Council of Ministers of indecision and "lack of political will" in carrying out energy policies in evidence to a House of Lords inquiry into the European coal industry.

NUM officials will give oral evidence to the Lords' European Communities Committee investigating the industry's future today, but a paper already circulated to its members takes them to task for limited perspectives, and suggests they turn their backs on the Community's leading politicians.

At the same time Mr George Tyler, general secretary of the British Association of Colliery Management, yesterday gave warning that it would be "an act of political lunacy" to allow the mining industries of Europe to decline because of the temporary availability of oil and natural gas.

In their submission, the NUM argues that the starting point

of the Lords inquiry—that the Community coal industry is progressively deteriorating—is misplaced because the 1974 decision to rely on coal has not altered.

"The major difference between the situation now and that in 1974 is that we have had several years of steady investment in the coal industry which is beginning to be seen in its financial and physical results."

The United Kingdom coal industry is on target to meet the objectives laid down by the EEC up to 1985, an aid has co-operated fully with the Community's institutions. However, we do not believe that the Community by its actions has so far shown the same degree of commitment to its own guidelines as have the representatives of the United Kingdom industry.

"This is exemplified by such events as the decisions of the Belgian government to close the Sud coalfield, and the French Government to revise its definition of economically recoverable

Sir Harold Wilson praises the standard of evidence to his inquiry into City's function

By Our Financial Staff

Sir Harold Wilson has praised the standard of evidence presented to his committee to review the functioning of the financial institutions, and expects the final report of the committee late next year.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Institute of Credit Management in London last night, Sir Harold said the committee had received "a very high level of evidence". He believed the inquiry had been a catalyst for a "great debate" in the City.

"The City is nothing if not competitive," he declared. "And after hearing about the early evidence being put before us companies obviously said: 'That was a little weak, we had better be in this ourselves.' As a result some very high-powered people came along to us."

Sir Harold said the committee's research panel was continuing to make in-depth studies on capital formation and decisions on capital spending. Companies which had given evidence included Allied Breweries, ICI, Shell and Lloyds.

The panel was also making a study of small companies in the Nottingham area. On evidence so far received it much had been in favour of the American system of a small business administration under a Cabinet minister.

Speaking at the same conference, Mr James Prior, the Opposition spokesman on employment, said British managers had taken too long to appreciate the benefits of worker participation in management.

Participation schemes were being introduced, but Mr Prior believed there was further to go. "We Conservatives welcome this trend towards consultation and we want to encourage much greater involvement and participation at work," he said.

"The City is that it has taken so long for many of our managers to appreciate the benefits of more consultation and cooperation in the workplace."

He added that people should not expect the Government to have the answers to all economic problems.

"We politicians must learn the basic fact that investors know more about investing



Mr Kenneth Cork (left), president of the Institute of Credit Management, with Mr James Prior, MP, and Sir John Hill.

than we do, that management knows more about managing than we do, and that bargainers know more about bargaining than we do."

He called for an end to the old attitudes of conflict in industry "which have helped no one and which have damaged us all."

Also at the ICM conference Sir John Hill, chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, forecast petrol rationing by price as the only long-term solution to the approaching world oil crisis.

He suggested that in the 1980s consumption of oil would

catch up with production and he expected rationing by price to emerge as the only possible result.

Mr John Nott, the Opposition spokesman on trade, said Britain needed a Minister for Exports. His task would be to act as an energetic salesman for British industry and commerce abroad, particularly in the Middle East.

"Turnkey" projects in the Middle East needed to be co-ordinated and promoted, often at ministerial level, by continual government-to-government negotiation.

Bank of England 'Quarterly Bulletin' Higher savings, slow world growth and import penetration blamed or UK slump

An article in the Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin lists three main factors which have depressed demand in the United Kingdom, thus leading to the current recession.

Written by Mr Christopher Taylor of the Economic Intelligence Department, the study suggests that the rise in savings, slow growth of world output and higher import penetration and relative import prices have been the main causes.

The increase of the public sector deficit has contributed something—but not much—to mitigate the severity of the recession.

The paper is written within a firmly Keynesian pattern of analysis. It seeks to explain how gross domestic product in the period 1975-79 was 7 per cent below the level it would have been expected to attain under full employment conditions.

The author identifies a 6.75 per cent shortfall overall. The most important single reason for the recession is that because growth was well below the trend of the world economy as a whole. This was more than countered, however, by the success of British exporters in increasing their market share.

The role that the trend in the rest of the world was faster than in the United Kingdom made the next effect of exports contribute an expansionary force overall equivalent to 8 per cent of gross domestic product.

The effect of changes on the import side was wholly contractionary. Because prices were higher there was a contractionary effect of 4 per cent of GDP on the economy.

Even more important was the impact of a sharp increase in the volume of imports, which came about through higher penetration of the stagnant British market. Overall, the increased price and volume of imports "cast" the economy some 12 per cent of GDP.

The effect of saving, net of investment, was also contractionary. Investment shortfalls reduced output by 1 per cent of GDP and the effect of money being saved rather than spent led to a negative influence of 4 per cent.

The public sector soaked up some of these funds through an expanded deficit. Policy changes added 2 per cent of GDP, mostly through tax cuts, while the automatic increase in the deficit as unemployment rises accounted for another half a per cent.

The author argues that the results show that fiscal policy has not played a major role in supporting output, but that at least it has not made matters worse.

The Quarterly Bulletin suggests that reports of a breakdown of the stable relationship between economic variables and the narrowly-defined money supply may have been premature.

Mr R. T. Coghlan, of the Economic Intelligence Department, deals with the problems faced in explaining the developments since 1972 in

terms of previously estimated demand for money functions. These are an attempt to relate people's desire to hold money balances to other aspects of the economy, such as interest rates.

In the 1960s, it seemed that research work had succeeded in producing a stable relationship for Britain, building on work carried out in the United States.

More recent research has cast doubt on this thesis, arguing that the researchers had built too imposing an edifice on too little empirical evidence, since reliable data became available only after 1963.

Mr Coghlan argues that it is the opponents of the concept of a stable relationship who relied on too little evidence, and that if the problem caused by lags is taken into account it can be identified.

The Bulletin shows that during the December quarter the authorities sold £2,075m of gilt-edged stock, bringing total sales in the first nine months of the present financial year to £5,635m, against £4,630m during the corresponding period of 1976-77. This is after allowing for redemptions of £324m and purchases of stocks within one year of redemption totalling £1,067m.

The Bulletin also shows that the total central government domestic financing requirement in the first three-quarters of the present financial year was £8,895m, including the domestic deficit of £5,000m and the increase in the reserves.

Merchant ship needs forecast

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Fresh forecasts of the expected requirements for new merchant ships over the next five years are being prepared by West European shipbuilders, and governments are likely to be given the latest assessment early in June.

Work undertaken by the Association of West European Shipbuilders on estimating the requirements for new ships against the background of huge worldwide overcapacity has been used as the basis for the plans drawn up by the European Community, which is coping with the crisis in Community yards.

AWES, whose members include shipbuilders from Spain, Portugal, Finland, Norway and Sweden as well as the EEC shipbuilding nations, has commissioned a detailed revision of the figures, which were produced towards the end of 1976.

In its earlier forecasts the AWES indicated that the requirement for new merchant tonnage was likely to run at an annual rate of 12 million compensated gross tons—a measure which reflects the work content in a ship over the period to 1981—which is about one third of the world's shipbuilding capacity.

Using the AWES figures, the EEC, in preparing its plan for the industry, calculated that the EEC should aim to secure orders for some 2.4 million compensated gross tons annually, which would imply a vast increase in the rate of the European capacity.

On the other hand it is fully conscious that it is an academic and not a political board and that financial decisions are taken elsewhere in the school.

Yours faithfully,
RALF DAHRENDORF,
Director,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street,
London WC2A 2AE.
March 10.

Incidentally, your director also says that the academic board of the school "decided not to risk a decision" on the matter. It is not for me to divulge confidential information on the meeting in question, but in my experience the academic board is never afraid to take a risk.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preferential tax treatment

From Mr E. G. Hurst

Sir, Each of the main political parties has put forward proposals designed to encourage wider share ownership, through profit sharing backed by favourable tax treatment.

Each scheme requires that the shares must be the shares of the company for which the employee works, and apart from certain other restrictions the benefit is usually reduced if he leaves the company within a specified period after acquiring the shares.

This type of scheme has four distinct disadvantages:

(a) Employees of non-profit-making organisations, such as civil servants and local authority workers, by definition have no opportunity of participating. With the growth of the public sector economy, this means that half the working population would be excluded.

(b) In the case of a company not listed on a stock exchange, the shares acquired would not normally be salable and would represent money "locked up".

(c) Even in the case of quoted companies, to insist that an employee invests his "nest egg" wholly in the shares of the company on which his livelihood already depends is hardly a good principle.

(d) To insist that he buys the shares of his employing company and must hold them for a period before benefiting may dissuade the employee from changing his employment and cause therefore militate against the mobility of labour, the lack of which is one of this country's major industrial weaknesses.

Surely a straightforward encouragement to people to become shareholders, in the broadest sense, would be a more satisfactory plan, avoiding all the disadvantages set out above. After all the use of personal tax relief to encourage socially desirable acts is not new. There must have been a time when Parliament decreed that company pension schemes were "a good thing" and decided to use tax relief on contributions to encourage their adoption, subject to broad approval of individual schemes.

The same principle must have been applied at some time in the case of life assurance, where a part of the premium is allowed for tax. Even when the tax relief previously available on interest on personal loans has

been rescinded, interest on loans specifically for house purchase has been excluded, presumably on the principle that home ownership is a "good thing" and therefore to be encouraged. Gifts receive preferential tax treatment. There are thus several precedents for using the tax system to promote particular objectives, without specifying too exactly the way in which the money made available is to be used.

Why, therefore, should share ownership not be recognised as another "good thing" to which the encouragement of tax relief could be wholeheartedly applied? Specifically, each person could be allowed to claim tax relief on a certain percentage of his income provided the money concerned was invested in a very wide choice of approved investments. If there could be found a method of including in the range of approved investments certain specified types of project requiring venture capital, another crying need could be satisfied.

There could be limitations designed to prevent too much benefit accruing to particular individuals, or accruing too soon. If such limitations are considered necessary, a scheme with the minimum of restrictions would help to reduce the stifling dominance of the institutions as a source of funds in the stock market, by encouraging smaller established companies to seek a quotation, in the knowledge that their most natural supporters would regularly have funds to invest; and most important of all, it would enable all tax payers, irrespective of their employment, to participate.

In summary, the proposals offered to date by the political parties would be a more satisfactory plan, avoiding all the disadvantages set out above. After all the use of personal tax relief to encourage socially desirable acts is not new. There must have been a time when Parliament decreed that company pension schemes were "a good thing" and decided to use tax relief on contributions to encourage their adoption, subject to broad approval of individual schemes.

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The same principle must have been applied at some time in the case of life assurance, where a part of the premium is allowed for tax. Even when the tax relief previously available on interest on personal loans has

been rescinded, interest on loans specifically for house purchase has been excluded, presumably on the principle that home ownership is a "good thing" and therefore to be encouraged. Gifts receive preferential tax treatment. There are thus several precedents for using the tax system to promote particular objectives, without specifying too exactly the way in which the money made available is to be used.

Why, therefore, should share ownership not be recognised as another "good thing" to which the encouragement of tax relief could be wholeheartedly applied? Specifically, each person could be allowed to claim tax relief on a certain percentage of his income provided the money concerned was invested in a very wide choice of approved investments. If there could be found a method of including in the range of approved investments certain specified types of project requiring venture capital, another crying need could be satisfied.

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Leyland franchise

From Mr V. F. Humphries

Sir, As a Leyland car owner, throughout my motoring life, I say that Mr A. LeFort's excellent letter March 14 in fact underestimates the effect of Leyland's disfranchisement of "un-economical" dealers on their sales. This action is likely to start a vicious circle.

Having built

Rotaflex

Rotaflex (Great Britain) Ltd.

Pre-tax profits increased by 35%

Year ended 31st December	1977	1976
TURNOVER	£17,969,800	£13,821,700
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	£1,533,700	£1,135,900
EARNED FOR SHAREHOLDERS	£643,600	£466,600
DIVIDEND PER SHARE (NET)	1.599p	0.866p
EARNINGS PER SHARE	6.7p	5.0p

With strengthened management, additional manufacturing capacity and improved financial position the company is ready to take advantage of the economic upturn when it occurs.

MICHAEL FRYE, CHAIRMAN.

The Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Rotaflex (Great Britain) Ltd., Rotaflex House, 341 City Road, London EC1P 1ET.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

147th Annual General Meeting will be held on 16th March at 2.30 p.m. at the Head Office.

STRONG MEASURE OF REAL GROWTH

Year	Annual Premium Income	Fund
1967	£ 5.8m	£ 58m
1972	12.1m	118m
1977	37.7m	262m

Head Office
28 St. Andrew Square, EDINBURGH EH2 1YF

London
City: 13-14 Cornhill, EC3V 3LE
West End: 6 Cavendish Square, W1M 9HA

Branches throughout the country

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE BEST POLICY FOR A SECURE FUTURE

Overseas work by management consultants up 43 pc

By Rodney Cowton

Considerable rises in the value of overseas work done by British management consultants continued last year with a growth of 43 per cent.

Annual figures published yesterday by the Management Consultants Association show that the 22 member companies earned 42 per cent of their fees abroad in 1977, against 36 per cent the previous year.

Mr Cyril Brown, chairman of the MCA, said that in the last five years overseas business had increased more than 300 per cent.

The association reckons that in the same period fees earned in the British Isles have in real terms just about got back to the level which had been achieved before a major slump which hit consultants in 1972-73.

Last year domestic earnings rose by 13 per cent, or roughly

£2.6m, as against the £5m growing overseas earnings registered by members of the association. This brought total fees to £38.8m, of which £22.6m was earned in the British Isles.

Although management consultancy tends to be associated with large or medium-sized firms, the association's figures show that 25 per cent of its member companies' clients in the British Isles had fewer than 200 employees.

However, the extensive use made of consultants by big companies is shown in the fact that in 1977 the services of consultants in the MCA were used by 91 out of the largest 100 companies listed in *The Times* Ezzy.

Finance and administration remains the largest sector, yielding 30 per cent of fees, with personnel management and selection being second with about 24 per cent.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers for industrial production in January, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970 = 100):

	All Industrial	Manufacturing
1977		
Jan	103.2	105.0
Feb	103.2	105.4
March	103.1	105.3
April	102.2	103.5
May	103.3	104.8
June	100.3	100.6
July	102.8	104.2
Aug	102.8	103.4
Sept	102.6	103.5
Oct	101.5	102.4
Nov	101.9	101.9
Dec	102.3	103.4
1978		
Jan	102.9	103.0

% 3-month change (1) -0.1 -0.3

(1) Average of 4th quarter 1977 compared with the average of third quarter 1977.

AVERAGE EARNINGS

The following are the index numbers for average earnings of all employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings survey released by the Department of Employment:

	Old series (Jan 1970 = 100)	New series (Jan 1975 = 100)	Change in (1) over 3 months at annualized rate
1977			
Jan	278.1	110.9	14.2
Feb	278.7	111.0	9.9
March	283.8	113.1	10.0
April	283.1	113.1	7.4
May	286.2	114.9	11.2
June	286.2	115.4	4.2
July	286.5	116.2	6.1
Aug	288.7	115.7	7.2
Sept	290.1	116.6	5.6
Oct	294.6	117.9	11.8
Nov	300.1	120.1	16.8
Dec	306.8	121.7	24.8
1978			
Jan p	306.0	121.3	16.4

p provisional

Business appointments

Top changes on Telephone Rentals board

Mr C. I. Ball has been appointed vice-chairman and Mr R. A. Sly managing director of Telephone Rentals from April 1.

Mr E. L. S. Weiss has been made finance director of Lincolntel.

Mr P. Thornton, a director of Hill Samuel, is to become a non-executive director of Robertson Feeds from April 1.

Mr W. Oakley becomes group finance director of Unicorn Industries. Mr Oakley joins the company from Wilkinson March and succeeds Mr Peter Welch, who is leaving at the end of April to become group finance director of Foster.

Mr J. H. Wilson has joined the board of London Prudential Investment Trust.

Mr M. S. Campbell has been appointed to the board and as chairman of Moolloy Investments, succeeding Mr Graham Dowson.

Mr E. A. Morgan, marketing director of Youghal Carpets, becomes additionally managing director of United Kingdom operations. Mr G. L. Price is to be deputy managing director and sales director, United Kingdom.

Mr Christopher Sealy and Mr Noel Jones become directors of Leasco Software.

Mr Gordon Kennedy, purchasing and industrial sales director of Chrysler UK, has been appointed a member of the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community.

Mr Hugh Meynell becomes chairman of Meynell Valves. Mr John Crewe has been made a director of Burgess (Engineers' Supplies).

Mr Ronnie Gee is appointed chairman of Drexel Burnham Lambert.

Loss of production at St Helena Gold

The Number two shaft at St Helena Gold Mines will be out of commission for at least two weeks, following the accident.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Tanker sale takes John I. Jacobs to £2.8m

By Our Financial Staff

Results of shipowner and shipbroker John I. Jacobs, in the sale of the tanker *Harmony*, show pre-tax profits for the year to December 31, doubled at £2.8m.

As a result the shares improved 1p to 41p yesterday. However, this includes the sale of MV *Hollywood* for £1.8m (which is deducted from the total for the year 2.80p gross compared with 2.5p last time).

With turnover well down at the half-way stage the directors took a pessimistic view of the second half with the outlook being distinctly gloomy. Turnover for this period stood at £563,000, which was 35 per cent down on the previous year's figure of £1.03m. Although pre-tax profits had improved from £746,000 to £2.45m the sale of MV *Hollywood* once deducted left £645,000.

Back in 1975 the group sold five of its ships leaving it with only two vessels, the 25,000dwt *Hollywood* and the chemical tanker *Shiraz* (1,871dwt).

One of the ships sold was the 136,000 dwt tanker *Teakwood* which was the group's largest and newest ship when delivered in July, 1975, at a cost of £11m. However, at the time market rates were extremely depressed and rather than lay the vessel up it was sold at a loss of £3.7m. The group has recently spent £1.8m on a London office building for its own use.

The group runs two bond funds and a pension fund and, although it pulled out of underwriting non-life business some eighteen months ago, is now known to be in an advanced stage of negotiations with Gulf & Western Industries for the disposal of Arrow Life Assurance at a price close to book value.

Arrow Life was formerly Slater Walker Insurance and there has been repeated speculation that it was up for sale. The crisis of confidence which hit Slater Walker did not help the fortunes of the insurance company and in the ensuing couple of years there has been virtually no growth in life funds which now, as then, are in the order of £70m.

The group runs two bond

Confident Hoover expects some stimulus to appliance industry

After a disappointing 1977, Hoover's chairman, Mr P. C. Boon, looks forward to 1978 with some optimism as "we like to think that at last there will be some stimulus to the domestic appliance industry".

Further reductions in direct taxation and other Government measures should result in some expansion in the United Kingdom industry for domestic appliances. The board hopes that the industry will be returned to the standard rate of VAT and that the minimum deposit on its products will be reduced to 15 per cent. This, coupled with a maximum repayment period of 3 to 4 years on

the more expensive items would give some encouragement to the market. Mr Boon says that planned stable growth is important in order to prevent any increase in total imports.

Although the board does not expect any improvement in market conditions in the first quarter, it hopes that the expected tax changes will improve the conditions progressively during the year. The position overseas may well be similar. The board hopes that the economic situation in Europe will start to improve and the company's new products will help it to further penetrate these markets.

Towards the end of the first quarter the group is going to launch major new products, which will spearhead the marketing programme this year. The products include a new "Junior" cleaner and a new automatic washing machine with a higher spin speed. With the group's very high market share, product development is the cornerstone of its future prosperity.

Mr Boon says that given a measure of stability and some relief from the uncertainties it continually faces, the group can look to the future with confidence.

Arrow Life may go to Gulf & Western

By Margaret Stone

The unwinding of the old Slater Walker empire continues with the news yesterday that Arrow Life Assurance (as the group is now known) is in an advanced stage of negotiations with Gulf & Western Industries for the disposal of Arrow Life Assurance at a price close to book value.

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French group for Baker costs group £1m

Baker Perkins, the food packaging and chemical machinery makers, has bought Malaxeurs Guittard, the French mixing machinery group, for £1m.

Malaxeurs Guittard, which employs 70 staff in Paris, manufactures a range of advanced mixers for the chemical, plastics and food industries. Its main market is France, but there has been considerable growth in world exports, particularly to the United States.

The acquisition gives Baker Perkins its first wholly-owned manufacturing facility on the Continent. Guittard mixers will be manufactured in Paris and sold world-wide. "Overflow" requirements will come from the Stoke factory.

Baker Perkins Inc will provide broad direction and marketing in the United States.

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Belhaven to clear its short-term loans

The Belhaven Brewery Group has completed its financial overhaul with a placing. The board proposes to issue about 800,000 shares to Bank of Bermuda on March 30 at 10 per cent below the middle market price. All of these shares are being placed with institutional investors and proceeds of the issue will be used to repay the group's United States dollar loans with the Bank of Bermuda, amounting to \$500,000.

After this issue all the group's short-term loans and overdrafts will have been repaid, and all future income will be available for development of the Belhaven Brewery division which is achieving a growth rate well above that of the brewery industry in general.

Following this issue, holdings of the major shareholders will be: J. Lyons with 17 per cent against 19.1 per cent, Gordon A. S. Currie, 6.2 per cent against 7 per cent, Scottish Amicable Insurance, 4.9 per cent against 5.4 per cent, while Allied Breweries retains an option of about 7 per cent compared with 8.6 per cent.

Albright & Wilson's £17m for expansion

Albright & Wilson is to spend more than £17m on United Kingdom capital projects for phosphorus chemical production and modernisation to improve efficiencies at its Oldbury (Birmingham) and Widnes sites over the next three years.

According to A and W's commercial director, Mr John Wills: "This latest United Kingdom investment programme confirms the company's confidence in its future as a major world

producer of phosphorus and phosphorus-based chemicals. 'It also emphasises the success of the modifications to our phosphorus furnaces at Long Harbour, Newfoundland, where the majority of our phosphorus is produced. We will be able to increase our penetration of international markets'.

More than £6m of the proposed capital investment has already been approved and the majority of that is likely to be spent this year. Tencoco Inc now controls Albright.

Destination unknown for Samuelson Film

Minority shareholders in Samuelson Film Service heard from the controlling family in December, 1976, that it was thinking of bidding for the 20 per cent of the equity it did not already own. Since then little progress seems to have been made, apart from approaches to the Island Revenue. Now they are told that it is still impossible to say anything more. So only time will tell whether they will do better than, say, the minority in Graff Diamonds. Nor is it possible to forecast the outcome for the full year ending this month. In the first half year, to last September, pre-tax profits plunged from £463,000 to £253,000 and the interim dividend is again 3p net, or a bit less gross.

H. Woodward group in 78 pc advance

On the back of a rise in turnover for the year to September 30 from £7.2m to £9.5m, pre-tax profits of H. Woodward car

dealing, industrial plant distribution, civil engineering, and metal fabricating group have jumped 78 per cent to £337,000. This is stated after writing off £38,000 of goodwill at the Liverpool branch, a profit on the sale of fixed assets of £4,000 against £18,000 and subsidiary company profits of £94,000 against losses of £68,000. Earnings a share are up from 7p to 19.78p, and the dividend is 1.87p against 1.27p.

Reviewing the current progress of Henlys, in which H. Woodward recently held a large stake, Mr Gordon Chandler, chairman, tells shareholders that the company is in very good heart and well prepared to make further progress as indicated by the strong follow through from last year into this year. Management figures for the first five months of the current year confirm the progress reported in the 1977 accounts. The board expects highly satisfactory interim figures.

Slump in zinc drags down Greenex

Copenhagen-Greenex Mining saw earnings plummet last year from its lead and zinc mine in the Black Angel mountains at Marmorkirk in Western Greenland. Zinc on the world market dropped sharply too. In the annual report, Greenex, which Canada's Cominco controls, says that sales last year fell from \$80m to around \$65m. Hence net profits sank from \$17m to only \$5.3m.

This was the first setback since the mine went into production five years ago. Mr Erik Jansen, managing director, said

that the owners may close the mine if the Danish Government insists on a \$17m scheme to store mining waste now sinking into Marmorkirk fjord.

Manchester Garages off to a good start

The board of Manchester Garages says that the first two months of 1978 have been most encouraging, and show a profit position above the first two months of 1977.

Industrial action at the manufacturers, and delays in delivery make it difficult to forecast the future, but with the strong position which it has built up in parts and service the group is reasonably protected against the vicissitudes experienced from time to time by the motor trade.

The strong balance-sheet and progressive profit record puts the co in a good position to acquire further dealerships.

F. Austin (Leyton) takes a nosedive

The not really str in at F. Austin (Leyton), the furniture, people, in the half year to December 31. Pre-tax profits slipped just a bit in the second half for the year to June 30 when the furniture trade suddenly went flat. But in the latest six months they more than halved from £330,400 to £163,200. Sales hardly gave ground at all. They moved from £4.1m to £3.97m.

However the interim dividend rises by the maximum 10p and interim net profits of £74,200 are large against dividends cost of £17,612.

UBAF BANK LIMITED

Balance Sheet at 31 December 1977

£	£
Share Capital and Reserves	Current Assets
Authorised, issued and fully paid ordinary shares of £1 each	Cash, balances at bankers, money at call and short notice
10,000,000	160,545,175
General reserve	Bills discounted
2,000,000	4,023,362
Retained profit	Deposits with banks
414,304	124,973,017
12,414,304	Certificates of deposit purchased
Shareholders' subordinated loans U.S. \$11,680,000	1,684,844
6,092,854	Loans and advances
18,507,158	31,846,436
Deferred Taxation	Debtors and prepayments
119,000	102,953
	323,175,787
Current Liabilities	Loans and Advances over one year
Current and deposit accounts	107,421,352
Certificates of deposit issued	Investments - Unquoted at cost (directors' valuation)
1,578,062	624,721
Taxation	Fixed Assets </

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Production figures take their toll

Production figures for the first nine months of the year have taken their toll on the stock market, with the FT 100 index falling 14.3 per cent to 2,220.00. The effect of the stock market's decline is a tax charge of only £648,000 against £104,000 giving a rise in net profits from £154,000 to £220,000. However, the group is despondent so this year it will pay a full tax charge.

Sales in the United Kingdom went up 27.5 per cent to £107.7m, while exports jumped 185 per cent to £5.6m. At half time, sales went up from £4.6m to £6.2m but profits on this higher level of activity were described as "most disappointing" by Mr C. L. Mearns, chairman. The ladies shoe division at Norwich did not reach its production targets and showed a loss of £130,000 for the half, but this was not expected to continue into the second half.

Mr Mearns did not expect the second half to match the results for the same 1976 period, when the group's recovery brought in a pre-tax profit of £367,000. In the event £83,000 was made pre-tax in the second half.

So far this year the group has not been doing very well and January was poor. However, home trade orders are well ahead.

Against an industry fall in volume sales of 13 per cent over the period, Bell's sales were unchanged, while The Real Mackenzie achieved a 2 per cent increase. Together the two brands accounted for 21 per cent of the United Kingdom Scotch whisky market.

Bell is now planning a serious assault on the United States market. In 1978 it will spend more than \$1m on advertising and promotion to establish its brand name there. The company is also embarking on an enlarged capital spending programme.

Bell is paying an interim dividend on the capital enlarged by the recent scrip issue of 3.4p a share gross.

Mr Raymond Miquel

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Bell is paying an interim dividend on the capital enlarged by the recent scrip issue of 3.4p a share gross.

Rowntree Macintosh closed unchanged at 375p.

Ever since talks with Bowater were called off more than two years ago, Stewart Plastics has been a favourite takeover candidate. In another flurry of interest yesterday the shares shot up 20p to 135p. An attraction is plenty of cash in the balance sheet but a strong board holding could prove a hurdle for a potential bidder.

Profit-taking clipped 4p from United Biscuits at 145p while Associated Dairies at 227p, Northern Foods at 82p and United Biscuits at 51p showed gains of up to 3p.

Shipping drifted aimlessly with little trading in any of the stocks. Improved results from John I. Jacobs added a penny to the shares at 41p while European Ferries lost a similar amount to 112p. Furness Withy also fell back closing 5p down at 253p.

Among speculative issues Rush & Tomkins closed a penny down at 99p and More O'Ferry at 145p. A similar amount to 112p. Furness Withy also fell back closing 5p down at 253p.

Issues firm on favourable comment were Aberthaw Cement 4p to 150p, Flindrive 4p to 66p, Folkes Heds 11p to 22p, Hopkinson at 76p and Brown & Tawse at 92p.

Following this week's figures

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Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Ang-Tri Cons (11c 222.0/231.0)	7.77(16.34)	15.89(20.12)	15.89(20.12)	25(25)	1/6	—
Arthur Bell (1)	86.2(76.5)	16.93(16.16)	16.93(16.16)	2.22(2.4)	1/6	—
F. Austin (1)	3.95(4.08)	0.16(0.33)	0.16(0.33)	1.02(0.16)	1/4	—
Bonser Eng (F)	10.35(7.58)	0.49(0.22)	0.49(0.22)	3.48(1.81)	28/4	1.44(1.29)
Britannic Ass (F)	—	—	—	6.17(5.27)	8/5	9.17(8.22)
Bury & Masco (F)	12.46(11.07)	1.20(0.84)	1.20(0.84)	12.5(10.7)	8/5	4.7(4.2)
Camelot (F)	0.87(0.74)	0.30(0.24)	0.30(0.24)	9.37(7.19)	2/0	1.8(1.1)
T. Clarke (F)	9.82(7.7)	0.42(0.32)	0.42(0.32)	3.74(3.14)	5/5	1.12(1.01)
Economic Fac (F)	8.84(6.15)	0.28(0.20)	0.28(0.20)	13.9(12.8)	10/5	—
Glebe Bldg (F)	6.64(6.62)	0.48(0.42)	0.48(0.42)	0.75(0.65)	23/5	0.59(0.53)
Playa Pack (F)	4.91(4.02)	0.48(0.46)	0.48(0.46)	2.71(2.69)	31/5	2.5(2.0)
Isle of Man (F)	0.17(0.15)	0.07(0.06)	0.07(0.06)	5.15(5.02)	1/5	1.8(1.5)
J. I. Jacobs (F)	1.18(1.24)	2.85(1.43)	2.85(1.43)	7.85(3.85)	1/5	—
F. L. L. (F)	1.18(1.24)	0.15(0.10)	0.15(0.10)	10.12(10.57)	7/4	—
M. C. Garages (F)	11.5(9.7)	0.46(0.27)	0.46(0.27)	4.43(3.23)	1/5	—
Nelson David (1)	4.14(3.76)	0.01(0.04)	0.01(0.04)	0.16(0.41)	1/5	—
Norvic Secs (F)	14.4(9.7)	0.22(0.25)	0.22(0.25)	28.92(38.24)	1/5	2.2(1.9)
S. R. (F)	6.62(6.61)	0.09(0.55)	0.09(0.55)	11.31(11.3)	11/5	3.38(3.02)
Sam's Film (1)	—	0.25(0.46)	0.25(0.46)	3.0(3.0)	19/4	—
Tratt Park Est (1)	1.41(1.27)	0.46(0.35)	0.46(0.35)	1.69(1.54)	15/5	—
Urb Bank (F)	—	0.24(2.62)	0.24(2.62)	84(—)	—	—
Walker Gold (F)	6.85(6.17)	0.58(0.53)	0.58(0.53)	1.0(1.0)	28/4	2.32(2.09)
H. Woodward (F)	9.59(7.26)	0.53(0.30)	0.53(0.30)	19.78(7.05)	1/3	1.87(1.70)
Yorkshire Chem (22.43/21.71)	1.54(3.18)	—	—	2.40(2.15)	12/5	4.76(4.26)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross amounts multiply net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. A in per cent. B Forecast. C Rands.

Yorks Chems halved and prospects muted

By Michael Clark

Shares of Yorkshire Chemicals, the dyes and tanning materials group, plunged 8p to 80p yesterday following the release of its results for 1977. These showed pre-tax profits down by over half to £154m.

This falls well short of the group's record of £324m achieved way back in 1974.

Group sales increased from £21.7m to £22.4m sending margins at the pre-tax level tumbling from 14.6 to 6.8 per cent.

The directors propose a final dividend of 3.6p making the total for the year 7.2p gross compared with 6.46p. Meanwhile, shareholders can take little comfort on prospects for 1978 with the board stating that the recovery in the world textile industry has not yet begun.

Generally, it expects a period of quiet trading through the first half of the current year.

Meanwhile, steps are being taken to continue to operate at a profitable level while the recession continues and to be ready to take advantage of the recovery as soon as it is manifested.

However, much of the blame for the group's disappointing profits last year is attached to

Christmas sparkle for Jas Walker Goldsmith

But for the existence of dividend restraint, James Walker Goldsmith and Silversmith, which has about 172 High Street retail outlets, would have liked to have increased this year's dividend and "substantially".

Last year the company paid a total of 2.059p net (3.23p gross), which was just over six times covered. An unchanged interim dividend of 1.515p gross has been declared and the board expects that the total will be 3.52p a share gross.

Pre-tax profits in the half to end October declined to £883,000 from £931,000 despite a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £5.86m (exclusive of value added tax). The decline was chiefly because of a drop in dividend and interest receipts to £28,000 from £113,000, partly because of a decline in interest rates but also because of the considerable liquid resources were put into building up stocks.

However there has been a "substantial increase" in activity over the Christmas period, probably due to the large range of stock available as a result of running down its cash holdings.

UBAF BANK

UBAF Bank show a trading profit of £3.24m for 1977, after payment of interest of £25,000 on shareholders' subordinated loans, against £2.62m in 1976. The bank's assets include £2m in reserves, £1m added to general reserve to increase it to £2m and further £400,000 set aside against any future losses. Dividend of 6 pence on share capital of

£10m. Share capital, reserves and retained profits amount to £12.41m.

UBAF Bank is a subsidiary of the £11.68m. Balance sheet total £431,36m at end of 1977, an increase of £24.2m over 1976. Total deposits at £409.57m (£352.57m) and total loans and advances at £430.49m (£372.34m).

JOHNSON-RICHARDS

London Brick and some other shareholders in H & R Johnson-Richards are now fully operational and is proving very successful.

Capital expenditure in the current year is expected to be lower than that of last year.

Transports (United Kingdom) however, are generally affected by the world recession and as a result traded at a loss.

At the half-way stage the group saw pre-tax profits slip from £1.7m to £1.6m while turnover rose from £1.6m to £1.8m.

Tate & Lyle gives warning of setback

By Our Financial Staff

The board of Tate & Lyle does not expect profits this year to match the £40.5m brought in over 1977, Mr John Lyle, in his last annual speech as chairman, says the volume of world trade is still showing little sign of improvement and Tate & Lyle's activities depend to an extent upon the existence of a healthy level of international demand. Also, the underlying problems of the United Kingdom economy are still acute in the board's view.

Mr Lyle, who is to become the group's president and who will be succeeded as chairman by Lord Jellicoe, says that the group's sugar refining business will undoubtedly be affected by the costs of the rationalisation programme that is essential for the long-term well being of the industry, and also by the surplus of sugar beet in the EEC.

However, in these unfavourable times the group continues to draw strength from the breadth of its activities.

As an example, Mr Lyle says that the trading company Tate & Lyle International, has done well in the first three months of the year and the overseas operations, through Tate & Lyle Engineering and Redpath Consultants, are showing further growth, after the excellent performance of last year.

Overall this year is proving to be difficult and challenging.

Up a further 3p to 70p went the shares in MFI which has hardly moved back since it reported doubled profits last month. MFI is still forging ahead, as 11 or so institutions will probably find out when they visit the group soon. A big buyer wanted 150,000 shares the other day and got fewer, but at this stage there is no suggestion of bid. The holding attributable to Mrs Seale is gradually finding its way into the market but there is still some way to go.

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Whisky price rise sought as Arthur Bell surges 48pc

Gilts steady

§. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Tomorrow's World celebrates its 500th edition with an out-of-character look at some futuristic fantasies, from holography to genetics. The delightful, evocative Wings nears its end. It will be missed.

Only the annual awards programme could move News at Ten from its hallowed spot. Television's night of self-indulgence.—I.R.R.

Tees
 sizes 1.20 yon. North
 1.30 Southern 2.25
 1.10 The Brady Bunch
 1.10 The Brady Bunch
 1.30 1.30
 1.30 Thomas 1.15
 1.20 Hiking Demo.
 Conquest

Border
 12.00. Thomas. 1.20. Border
 News 1.30. Thomas. 1.15. Lingo
 1.45. News. 5.00. Lookaround
 1.22. A.V. 7.30. Mr. and Mrs.
 1.00. Hiking Demo. 5.30. Thomas
 1.10. News. 1.10. News
 1. Search of Strange Visitors
 12.15 am. Drive-In. 12.45. Border
 News.

...day Concert: Prokofiev, version 9.30, Kaleido
 rahms. 2.00, Waltz Dream. 9.59, Weather. 10.00.
 ...eretta by Oscar Strauss: 3.50, 10.30, Any Answers? 11.
 ...words. 3.55, Piano Recital: Book at Bedtime: "
 ...ethoven, Liszt, Ravel: 4.55, Waters". 11.15, The Fir
 ...the Paul Sacher Commissions: 11.30, To
 ...45, Homeward Bound. 6.05, Parliament. 11.45, News.
 ...words. 6.10, Homeward Bound. 12.05 am, Inshore forecast

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